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GENEALOGY COLLECTION

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COLLECTIONS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEVENTH SERIES — VOL. X

Committee of Publication

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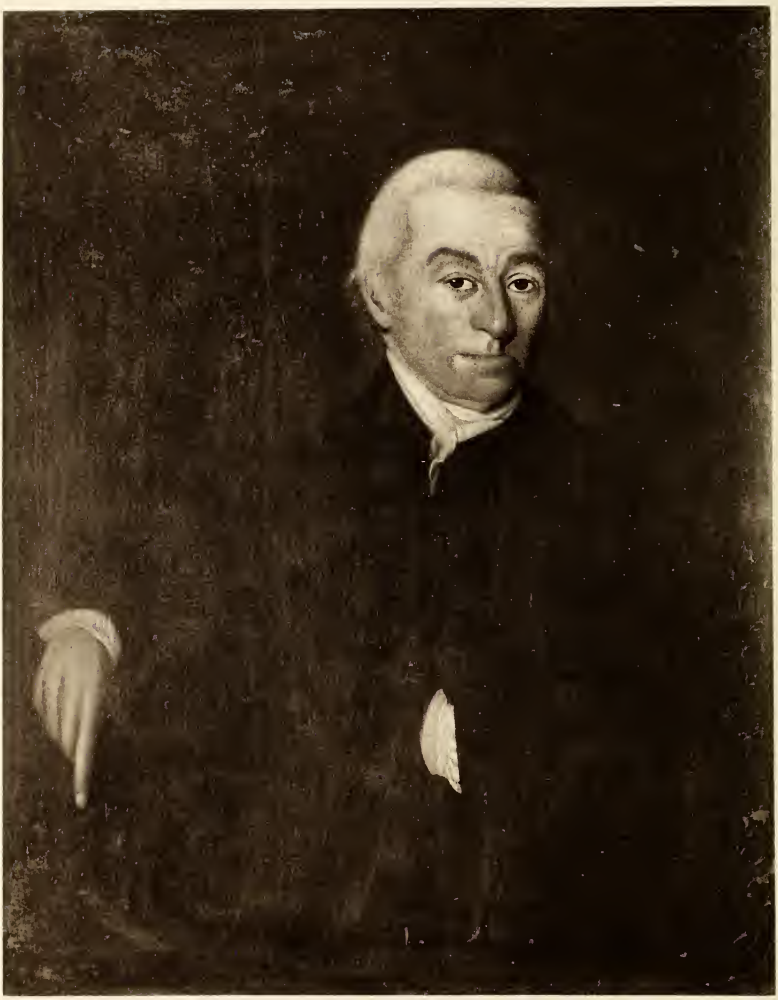
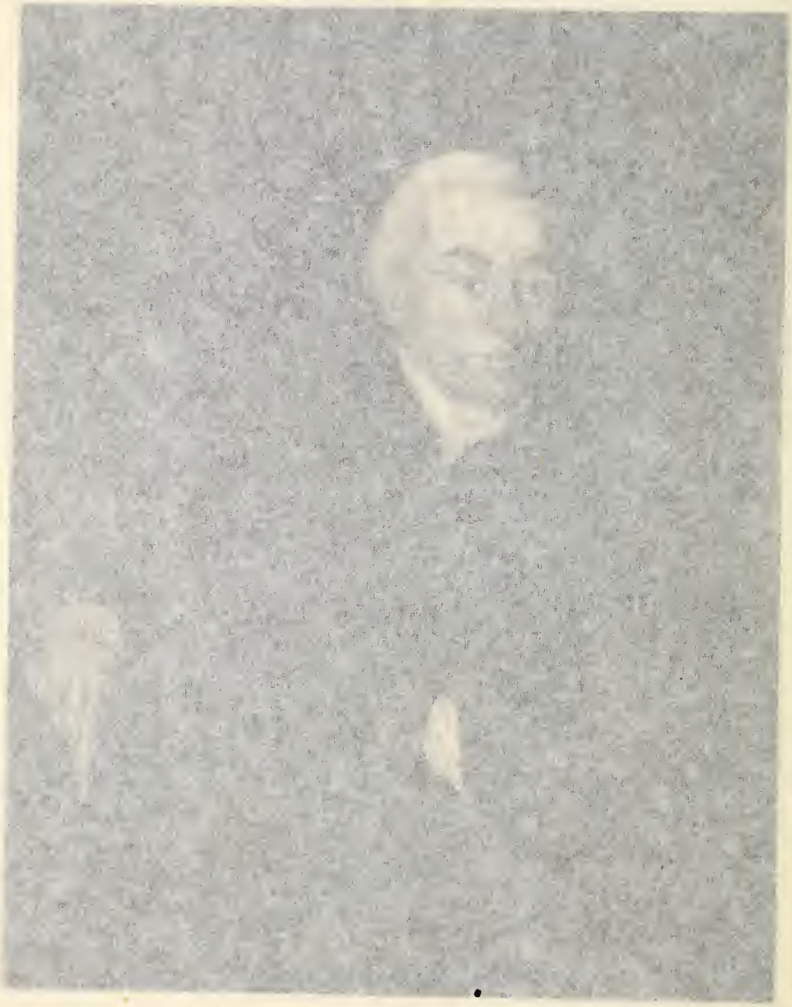


Jacob Rodriguez Rivera

From the original painting by Gilbert Stuart
in the possession of Miss Emma Rodman



John Bell Rhind

From the original painting by Gilbert Stuart
in the possession of Miss Emma Rhind

COMMERCE

OF

RHODE ISLAND

1726—1800

VOL. II

1775—1800

BOSTON
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
MDCCCCXV

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PREFATORY NOTE

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THE mercantile correspondence belonging to Hon. George Peabody Wetmore, selected documents from which have formed volumes LXIX and LXX of the printed COLLECTIONS of this Society, comprised more than three thousand pieces. Other known portions of the same records, located in the Newport Historical Society and in private collections of manuscripts, would bring the total to about four thousand five hundred pieces. It is believed that what has been printed is sufficient to indicate the character of the papers and their value for the study of colonial commerce in one of the most important of the trading ports of New England.

Not only did Mr. Wetmore obtain the collection, and thus save it from destruction, but he has very generously provided the means of publication; and has still further shown his interest in the papers and desire for their preservation, by presenting his collection to the Society. Within a short time these papers, to be known as the "Wetmore Collection," will be bound and open to study by those who wish to carry their investigations of colonial commerce, and incidentally of colonial manufactures, beyond the limits necessarily set by the printed volumes. The historical richness of the material will thus be developed, and lead to a better understanding of the extent, direction and methods of the trade of the British colonies of North America, at a time when the colonial, or so-called "mercantile system," was being developed and applied. That some misunderstandings of that system, whether in its intention or in its results, still exist, is beyond question; and only the study of specific examples, such as abound in this Wetmore collection, will clear them.

In aid of this study two collections of merchants' letters named in the Prefactory Note of the previous volume of COLLECTIONS will be useful, offering a wider field and at the same time special topics, like the tobacco trade of Virginia

and Maryland. Further similar material on the commerce of New England exists in the following merchants' letter books in the Newport Historical Society:

Thomas Bannister, 1695–1712.
Thomas Richardson, 1710–1715.
Samuel and William Vernon, 1732–1751, 2 vols.
John Bannister, 1739–1750, 3 vols.
William Ellery, 1743–1759.
Aaron Lopez, 1767, 2 vols.
Samuel Ayrault, 1767–1778.
Peleg Clarke, 1771–1782, 2 vols.
Christopher Champlin, 1774–1804, 7 vols.
Gibbs and Channing, 1797–1811, 4 vols.

Worthington Chauncey Ford,
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Boston, October 1, 1915

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Commerce of Rhode Island

[1726–1800]

Charles Lyell to Christopher Champlin[1]

Martha's Vineyard, 11 January, 1775.

Sir,

I have some baggage on board Captain Coffin's Schooner from Nantucket, which I beg the favor of you to enquire after and forward to me at Boston. I must likewise request you to satisfy him for the freight of them and my own and Servant's passage from Nantucket to this place and charge it to Mr. Brymer's Account. I left London the 13 November in a Brig belonging to Providence bound to Salem. The Master was not acquainted to the Eastward which occasioned our tumbling about in the Bay a fortnight and were at last obliged to put into Nantucket last Saturday Evening where I left her. I have no particular News. I breakfasted with Mr. Alex'r Grant the morning before I came away, and left him and Mrs. G. with the little one in good health. I have sent some Packets and letters for Mr. Cheeseborough and Dr. Hunter which you will enquire after, and deliver the enclosed if the *Hind* has not left you. If she is gone and no opportunity of forwarding it to Antigua please to send it to me at Boston. Make my best Compliments to Mrs. Champlin, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, and Dr. Haliburton's family. You will likewise oblige me by calling upon Captain Wallace with my Compliments and let him know I left his friends well but they had no particu-

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[1775

COMMERCE OF

Exch^e for: £175.— New York Currency Charlestown 11 January 1775

N^o

At thirty days sight of this my second of Exchange my first and third of same tenour and date not paid Pay to M^r Nathaniel Russell — or order —

One Hundred & Seventy Five Pounds —

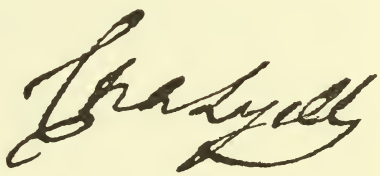
New York Currency being on account of Expences in my Department in the Current Year 1775 —

— as p^r Advice from Sir

To His Excellency The Honble
Thomas Gage Esq^r
General and Commander in Chief of His
Majesty's forces in North America
Boston ~~New York~~

Your Excellencys
Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant
John Stuart

lar commands. I would have wrote to him, but the Vessel is just now upon sailing and Capt. Ayscough is obliging enough to send his Boat with me from hence to Falmouth. I shall write to you after I get to Boston and again beg you will forward my things as quickly as possible. they consist of three Trunks and two Boxes and a large painted canvas bag with Beding. They are directed for myself but if you think there is any hazard of their being stop'd at Providence where I am told they are troublesome you will please to address them to Mr. Powell or any other person you please and give me notice. Excuse great hurry and believe me sincerely Your most obedient Servant



[Endorsed,] by Capt. Coffin.

William Barron to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, January the 31, 1774 [1775.]

Sir,

This is to inform you of my safe Arivel in 36 days and find the Markets verry low and know likewoods of being aney better there as yet and know freights stirring at present and I am at a verry great stand what to do with the Ship but I have not had time yet to consult with my friends about the Matter. if I can get a freight of Salt for Philadelphia or aney part of Virginia or maryland I think it will be best to embrace it for their is nothing to be don in the Strats nor to the Islands. flower is at three Mill two per Kentle and it [is] thought by the Merchants that it will not rise this sum time. I hav talked with Mr. Bulkley about the accoumpt of the last Voyag and he tells me that the Accoumpt is allmost closed and he sase that has wrote you all the perticlers of the Voyag and answar to

your Letter. the Ship is verry tite and every thing well on board. I find Sir that it is emposable to get clar of paying the 2 1/2 per C. to the Merchants for paying me the freight that is due on the Cargo for thay say that it is an old Custom and thay will not brake through that Custom and I find that I must give up that Point. I shall right again in a few days then I hop I shall be better able to inform you about maters. their is know News from England yet but the Packets is expected every day and it is thought by the Gentlemen hear that she will bring sum good news on our side. I will do every thing that is in my Power to keep the Ship employd for your intrest which you may be well assured of my alwase studdying as my own. I remain, Sir Your verry humble Sarv't,

WILLIAM BARRON

[Endorsed,] Per favor of Captain Green.

WILLIAM LEWIS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Rose, 1st February, 1775.

Sir,

THE Provisions I have already demanded should be glad to be sent on board as soon as convenient. The Bread is the last wanted and of that only 8000 lbs. as we have a Quantity of Marine Slops stowed in the Bread Room is the reason we cant take so much as I proposed: suppose the best part may come this week if the weather permits. Be pleas'd to send an Invoice with them. pray taste the Butter for we have not a Bitt on board fitt to eat for ourselves. my Health will not permitt me to stirr out of the Ship yet, but I pray God it wont be long first, when you may be assured of the first Visit from Your most Humble Servant,

WM. LEWIS

We shall compleat to three Months very soon in March, to be fitt for Sea. Be so kind to send by my Boy 3 pds. Tea. hope Mrs. Champlin and Family are well. Let us

know when we may expect the provisions of by the Bearer. no Beef is wanted now. I suppose the same allowance of Callavances as of Pease allowed to the Men.

Patterson and Hood to Collector of Customs

Gentlemen,

On Wednesday the first Instant the Tide Surveyor of this Port boarded within four Miles of this Town a Topsail Schooner, name unknown, the Masters name (supposed to be) Campbell who reported from Casco Bay. soon after the Tide Surveyor had boarded the said Schooner the Master ordered his people to weigh Anchor and sailed down the River, declaring he would go to St. Eustatia and carry the Tide Surveyor and people, consisting of four Boatmen, with him. next day the Schooner was seen sixty miles down the River with the Kings Boat at her Stern; since which we have not heard of them. we have full information that the above Schooner was loaded with Contraband Goods, and have reason to conclude they consist of Tea and War-like Stores from Holland. We therefore think it our duty to give you the earliest intelligence of this Vessell, lest she should attempt to land her Cargo in your Port. The above Schooner is deep waisted, with two small Ports on each side of the Waist, brown bottom and her Quarters painted light blue. If such a Vessell should arrive in your Port, we request you will be so kind as to let us know it. We are, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servants,

John Patterson, *D. Coll'r.*
Zach. Hood, *Compt.*

Custom House, Philadelphia 3 February 1775.

[Addressed] The Collector and Comptroller of His Majestys Customs, Newport.

[Endorsed,] The Coll'r and Comptroller of His Majesty's Customs at Newport Rhode Island.

[and in another hand,] John Martine Leake Treasury Chambers, Whitehall. Per favour of Mr. Harrison.

PARR, BULKELEY AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Lisbon, 1st February, 1775.

Sir,

WE are favor'd with your much esteem'd lines of 25th November handed us by Captain Barron of your Brig *Peggy*, who we find is loaded to another house owing to Flour being above our limits, which is well, as we never like to encourage our friends to risk their property without a prospect of advantage, sorry whenever we draw a Commission on a losing account. Have now the pleasure to advise you of a remittance made the 24 December to your friends Messrs. Hayley and Hopkins for Rs. 100$000 being something more than we were in Cash from your 1/3 concern in the *Peggy's* Cargo: you may depend on our exertion to close this affair as soon as possible by a remittance to your friends and furnish you with the accounts.

We remark what you say respecting our drawing a Commission on freight money, and reply that it is customary even supposing we were to pay the money to the Captain, being a gratuity for transacting the ship's business, and we hope you will do us the justice to make enquiry into this Charge and acquit us accordingly. Respecting the five Barrels flour that Captain Barron was deficient, we assure you they never appear'd in our store, having renderd sales of that Voyage to the concern'd, and we are certain they never were landed in Lisbon. we have frequent short deliveries from on board, and the mistake often proves to be on your side the water. Cargoes hurried on board without either mate or Master keeping count, and bills of Lading sign'd from a slight reckoning of the storekeepers. We are far from harbouring the least thought of any embezzlement on board, but as the bill of Lading expres'd a certain quantity, we were under the necessity of charging the deficiency to the Ship.

We shall be happy in rendering Captain Barron every service in our power, and wish for our friends sake the *Peggy* had arrived to a better market. never was Lisbon

in so glutted a state, and wishing for opportunities to support a reciprocal correspondence remain with great regard, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants,

PARR, BULKELEY AND CO.

Nominal Prices

Flour	3$200	Corn	200 to 220.
Wheat	420 to 440	Exchange 66 per $.	

GEORGE HAYLEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 10 February, 1775.

Sir,

I HAVE before me your favours of the 12th and 24th November, for which am greatly obliged. The bills you have drawn on me in favour of H. & H. are accepted and you may depend shall be punctually discharged. I have agreable to your direction made £450 Insurance on Flax Seed in the *Brittania*, Captain Fair, from Newport to her port or ports of discharge in Ireland, the Account of which you will find enclosed premio etc. being £11.10.6 is to your debit. We have received a Letter from the Captain advising his arrival at Dublin, which I desired Mr. Samuel Fowler to inform you of in a Letter we wrote him by Captain Collins. I have also made £800 Insurance on 11/16 of the Sloop *Adventure* to Africa and America, the Account of which is likewise enclosed premio etc. being £86.12.3. I sincerely wish she may make you a succesful Voyage. I have also made £450 Insurance agreable to your desire for account of Mr. Geo. Champlin as above on the Sloop *Adventure*, for premio of which have debited your Account £35.11.9 as per Account herewith.

I am sorry to say American affairs bear every day more and more a gloomy prospect. Our Administration are determined to enforce the oppressive Acts of parliament at every hazard. Under this circumstance the order you send for Goods must remain unexecuted. I hope we shall gett into a happier situation some time or other but at present it seems to be at some distance and the Issue must

I fear be inevitable ruin to the Commerce of both Countries. I am very respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

GEO. HAYLEY

Dr. Mr. Christopher Champlin for the following Insurance on the *Brittania*, Fare, at and from Rhode Island to her port or ports of discharge in Ireland

£450 on Flaxseed . . . at £2 per Ct.		£9. —.—
Policy		—. 5. 6
Commission		2. 5.—
		£11. 10. 6

On the *Adventure*, Champlin, at and from Rhode Island to the Coast of Africa, during her Stay and trade there and from thence to her Ports of Discharge in British America

£300 on 11/16 Vessell and outfit valued		
800 Cargo		
£1110 Insured	at 7 Guineas per Ct.	£80. 17.—
	part Policy	—. 5. 3
	Commission	5. 10.—
		£86. 12. 3

£320 on Cargo 130 on part Vessell valued	on Do. for acct. of Geo. Champlin	
£450 Insured	at 7 Guineas	£33. 1. 6
	part Policy	—. 5. 3
	Commission	2. 5.—
		£35. 11. 9

Endorsed, Per Capt. Lyde, via Salem.

HAYLEY AND HOPKINS TO AARON LOPEZ

[London,] 20th February, 1775.

Sir,

THE foregoing is Copy of our last respects. We now enclose your Account Current for the last year, ballance thereof being £22673.–.9 in our favour is carried to your debit in new Account which if upon examination found free from Error please note in conformity of which shall be obliged by your informing us in your next.

We have since our last received your esteemed favours of the 8th and 23d September, 10th October, 16th and 24th November, 2d and 21st December, to which we now propose to answer in the order they lay before us. In that

of the 8th September you wish to have £100 additional Insurance made on the *Diana*, but your Letters of the 8th, and that of the 23d September in which you advise her misfortune both came to our hands the same day by Captain Jenkins, and of course the additional £100 could not be done. Your care to send this Intelligence is another proof of that Integrity of which we have seen many Instances in the course of our correspondence and does you great honour. We have very lately received the papers relating to that loss via Philadelphia, and have laid them bef[ore] your Underwriters. £400 of this Insurance was done upon the Vessel and they have agreed to pay that Sum as usual in a Month, so that our next will cover the Account of the settlement for that part; but the remaining £100 which is done on Goods they defer settling till we can furnish them with an Invoice of the Cargo which was on board her at the time she was lost. By the bill of Lading which you have sent us the value (exclusive of the Mules which they suppose were landed at Jamaica) does not amount to near £100. We must therefore beg the favour of you to send us an Invoice with all expedition.

We have perused with all possible attention what you write about your Brig *Leviathan*, with Capt. Lothrop's Letter and your orders to him, which we have also laid before your Underwriters, but they will do nothing in it till we can furnish them with some more authentic proofs than merely the Captain's Letter. This is one of those unhappy cases which generally end in litigation at Law. If that must be the case our utmost attention shall be given to it as soon as we are furnished with legal proofs which we hope you will be able to do ere long. We should think it impossible (if Lothrop's state of the case is true) that they can detain him or his Vessel much longer; If not, when he returns you will easily procure and send us every necessary proof and we will then exert every possible diligence to procure you justice.

The bill you remitt us for £1000 drawn by Benj. Wright on ourselves is accepted and when due shall be placed to

your credit. We have been hoping to receive further remittances from Jamaica, but have not heard from Captain Wright since our last. The remittances from that quarter have fallen greatly short of our expectations.

The £800 Insurance you directed on the Ship *Jacob* to Newfoundland and back was effected immediately on receipt of your Letter and herewith you have the Account thereof, premio, etc., being £24.5.6 is to your debit in the Account Current now enclosed; as is also the Account of £900 Insurance on the *Flora* from Newfoundland to the West Indies and America or Europe, premio, etc. being £40.15.6. This was done in consequence of the order in yours of the 10th October. We had no directions from Mr. Sears about it. The premium is to your debit with G. H. alone.

We notice the whole of your remarks on Capt. Storey's Vessel and her future proceedings which shall be attended to; He has drawn upon us for £400 which shall be duly discharged and placed to your debit and the bill you remitt us for the same Sum drawn by Mr. Rotch on ourselves shall be to your credit, as is also £313.17.11 for nett proceeds of the 40 Tierces of Sugar consigned us by Capt. Wright on board the *Nancy*, the money for which was not received till after the close of the last year and is therefore to your credit in the present years Account. We are glad to see the Goods sent you by Thomlinson turned out agreable to Invoice, except the trifles mentioned in your Letter of the 16th November, for which we debit you as at foot of this and are obliged to you for pointing them out to us. We have carefully attended to and are obliged by the information you give us respecting your 3 Jamaica Ships. We sincerely wish you all the advantage you promise your self from that Engagement, but we think the present situation of the American Trade is against them and we are sorry to say there is a prospect of its becoming worse rather than better. Our Ministry, and under them our parliament, are determined upon violent measures which must surely prove the utter ruin of both countries. We dread the

fatal consequences. We are glad to see the *Jacob* was safe arrived with you from the Land. The 50 Setts of bills remitted us by Mr. Sears are come to hand. One of them being for £42.13.11 on James Sykes we now return you with protest, for charges on which we have debited you 5/9. The rest are all gone to their proper places of address and we hope will prove good, if not, due care shall be taken to inform you thereof. We are sorry to say the remittances from that quarter fall greatly indeed short of our expectation. For what remains of your commands we beg leave to refer you to the seperate Letter of our G. H. which goes by this Vessell. We are very respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servants,

HAYLEY AND HOPKINS

Dr. Mr. Aaron Lopez for the following Insurances

On the *Jacob*, Peters, at and from Newport to Newfoundland and back

£400 Vessel valued
400 Goods
£800 Insured . . . . . at £2.10 per Ct. . . . . £20.—.—
Policy 5. 6
Commission . . . . . 4.—.—
£24. 5. 6

On the *Flora*, Forrester, at and from Newfoundland to Barbados and any other of the West India Islands (Jamaica excepted) and at and from thence to America or Europe, to return £1.18 per Ct. if she is sold in the West Indies.

£750 Vessell
150 Freight
£900 Insured . . . . . at £4 per Ct. . . . . £36.—.—
Policy 5. 6
Commission . . . . . 4.10.—
£40.15. 6

GEORGE HAYLEY TO AARON LOPEZ

London, 20th February, 1775.

Sir,

I HAVE already wrote you in the Name of my late Partnership. I come now to acknowledge receipt of your seperate Addresses to me of the 14th and 24th November

20th and 21st December, for which am obliged. The 4 Bills drawn on me in favor of H. & H. are therein inclosed, the first of them which becomes due the 31 March next, shall certainly be discharged, and I hope the same of the others as they become due, but the unhappy alteration in the American Commerce and the stagnation of remittances which it seems probable must take place, in consequence thereof, makes me unwilling to lay myself under positive Engagements. I hope however I shall accomplish the payment of the whole. It is my wish to do so. I shou'd greatly prefer that mode of settling the Account of H. & H. to any other, but in the mean time as it can make no material difference to you whether H. & H. or myself alone are your Creditors, I dare say you'll excuse my keeping this matter in suspence, under the Assurance of my intention of settling it in the manner herein refered to. The two Bills you remit, for £157.17.4 on Thos. Lansdown, £260.12.7 on the Commissioners of the Victualling, are accepted, and when paid, shall be placed to your Credit. The eight Bills amounting to £131.2.10 are agreable to your directions delivered to Capt: Shand, who has paid me the Ballance theron £1.2.10 which is to your Credit, and has given up your Acceptance of £130 regularly discharged. In my Companys Letter I informed you that I had debited you £40.15.6 for £900 Insurance to the West Indies and No. America and Europe on the *Flora*, Forrester. the reason for doing it by me, and not the Company was that the Order did not come to hand till after the close of the last Year, For the same reason the Insurance ordered on your Ships bound to Jamaica are done by me, and placed to your debit accordingly, the particulars are as follows

£2200 on the *Clarissa*, Marsom, and her Cargo, premio, etc., being £115.10.6, this Insurance I have charged the whole to your Account for the present, as you do not mention what share Mr. Rotch holds in her. I suppose he has 1/4 with which his account shall be charged when I am favored with your Answer, together with 1/4 also of the additional Insurance of £100 on her Cargo, for which last

you are at present debited also £3. for the whole Cost. £2500, being 1/2 of £5000 on the *Nancy*, Tomlinson, and her Cargo, premio, etc., being £145.8.0; £1950, being 3/4 of £2600 on the *Juno*, Miller, and her Cargo, premio, etc., being £106.6.11. I am, etc.

GEORGE HAYLEY

(copy) Original per Lyde via Salem.

ROBERT AND NATHAN HYDE & CO.[1]
TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Manchester, 10th March, 1775.

Sir,

HAVING none of your esteem'd favors to answer, the present serves to advise, that in case you incline to favor us with your future orders for our manufactures, we recommend your doing it as soon as possible, that we may have them ready to ship immediately on the trade opening. you will find an advantage in doing this, as you will have better goods and patterns, also have them earlier at market than those people, who put of forwarding their orders till the trade opens, many houses with you found an advantage in this, on the opening of the former Non-importations, they were sensible that it was impossible for us, as manufacturers, to ship goods properly sorted for your market, without having time to prepare them. We have reason to believe that the present unhappy differences between this Country and yours will be settled in a few months. We are with much Esteem, Sir, Your most obedient Servants,

ROBT. AND NATHAN HYDE & CO.

[Endorsed,] Per the *Elisabeth* via New York.

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[1] In January, 1775, the firm had been enlarged by taking in as a partner, John Middleton.

Christopher and George Champlin to Robert Champlin

Newport, March 21, 1775.

Captain Robert Champlin,

Since writing our Orders of the 8th day of this month (wherein we limited the lowest you was to sell for at Barbadoes at £35. Sterling and £36. at the Grenades) we have received a Letter from the Grenades, wherein we have advice of 1600 Slaves sold there in the Months of December and January and 2000 gone to Leeward, the greater part of which to Jamaica. We therefore would have you sell to Went and Son, if you cannot obtain any more for £34. Sterling round, payable in manner as before directed, rather than quit Barbadoes, unless you have a better price promised you from Threlfal & Anderson; if not, then you must proceed to Jamaica to the House of Murray and Wright at Savannah la Mar, as ordered in our said Letter the 8th March. We wish you Success and are Your Friends and Owners,

Chris. Champlin
Geo. Champlin

[Endorsed,] To Captain Robert Champlin, Master of the Sloop *Adventure* expected from Africa, At Barbadoes.

William Lewis to Christopher Champlin

Dear Sir,

I am greatly to apoligize for my late Impoliteness at your House, and hope Mrs. Champlin and yourself will excuse it. I should be glad to know the Weight of the Bread return'd as the Steward cannot finish his weekly Accounts without it. the Weight of the Sugar and Price is wanted as our Mess settles every fortnight. Likewise the Weight of the Cheese, Price, and what I am charged in Cheshire, for I have lost that you gave me. I think the Captain's Steward talks the Captain will pay for it himself. We propose victualing next week, when I shall come on shore and talk with you

myself. only some of the Rum must be in Casks of about 30 Gallons, 6 of them will do the rest as we propos'd. this Manoeuvre is a late Whim of the Captains. I have nothing perticular to add but remain, Dear Sir, yours Sincerely,

Wm. Lewis

Wednesday afternoon. [March 30, 1775.]

I find by the Steward the Captain expects to be charged no more than the weight as Cheshire. Brymer supplied so at Boston. you know best what ships have done here before. things are in the same dissagreeable Situation. dont let this be seen.

Leonard Jarvis to Aaron Lopez

Dartmouth, April 5th, 1775.

Sir,

Your Favour of the 21st Ultimo lays before me. Mr. Barney is now making provision for the Rigging for the new Ship. He would rather if agreable to you have the number of Coils of Cordage of each size that may be wanted, as all Riggers do not agree in their Judgement. this memorandum, if convenient to you I should be much obliged to you for and you may depend on the exertion of Mr. Barney that you may have the Cordage in season and on his care to conform to the Order.

I call'd on Mr. Greenwood, who was in the Vessell lately arrived from Falkland Islands, he it seems was Master and not Capt. Martindale, as I suppos'd. From the conversation I had with him I think there is a prospect in the Fishery at those Islands well worth attending to, notwithstanding the small quantity of Oil this Vessell brought home, but then it must be pursued quite differently from what it has been. from knowing the Rocks our predecessors have split upon I hope we may avoid them. Capt. Greenwood promis'd me to call on you shortly and I gave him some

encouragement to expect a Vessell, but since I left him I have heard that he is not so temperate as he ought to be. I should therefore think it would not be for our Interest to employ him in the Command of a Vessell, tho' as he is acquainted among the Islands, and is a man of ability, it might, in so large an undertaking as the proposed one, be well worth the while of the concernd to make him such offers as may be for his Interest to accept.

I had a letter by the Post from Capt. Stutely Wyat requesting me to forward the Bill of Lading of the Fatt Butter and Hoops. if I mistake not, it was left with you; if not, it is somehow or other mislaid. I shall make a further search for it, and if found shall forward it. I should be much obliged if you can find the Amount of the Freight, if you will be kind enough to pay it and debit the account of Mr. Rotch for the same. I am quite ashamed to trespass so frequently upon you, but I know you will be good enough to excuse it.

The fifty pounds you was so kind as to lend me I will discount with Mr. William Rotch, if agreable to you, for at present we have not money enough to discharge it. I am, Sir, with my most Respectful Compliments to your Lady, Your much obliged and most obedient Servant,

LEO: JARVIS

ROBERT AND NATHAN HYDE & CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Manchester, 27th April, 1775.

Sir,

WE rec'd your much esteemd favor of the 24th February inclosing a bill value two hundred pounds Sterling when paid shall come to your credit with thanks.

Your directions respecting your order for goods shall be punctually complied with. we most sincerely wish that the present unhappy disputes between this Country and her Colonies may soon subside and confidence and unanimity restored which will put Trade on the former footing, when

we shall be oblig'd by your further orders for our Manufactures. We remain very respectfully, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants,

Robt. and Nathan Hyde & Co.

George Hayley to Aaron Lopez

30 April, 1775.

Sir,

The foregoing is Copy of my last respects, since which I am favoured with yours of the 28th February and 3d March. I know the House of Livingston and Turnbul of Gibraltar, and am upon friendly terms with Davis, Strachan and Co. who are their Correspondents in London, with whom I have conferred fully since your letter came to my hands. They assure me entire dependence may be made upon their honour and that whatever bills they may direct you to draw shall meet punctual discharge, on which I have no doubt you may safely rely. I observe with pleasure the arrival of the *Nancy* and the *Clarissa* at Jamaica, and in consequence of your instructions have made £800 additional Insurance on the latter and her freight from thence to London, for cost of £600 being ¾ thereof I have debited you £27. I have also made the following Insurances

£700 on the *Juno*, Bissett, additional on Ship and freight, for cost of £525 being ¾ thereof I have debited you £15.15. from R. Island to Jamaica.

£1000 on the *Flora*, Dean, at and from Rhode Island to Surinam and back, for, premio, etc., on which I debit you £45.5.6.

£1200 on the *Ann*, Davis, at and from Jamaica to Philadelphia for premio, etc., I debit you £24.7. being for £800, ⅔ of the £1200, the Accounts of all which you will find enclosed and I hope they will meet your approbation. I sincerely rejoyce at the good Voyage made for her Owners by the last mentioned Vessell and am obliged to you for your assurances of turning some considerable remittances this way from Jamaica, which will be highly acceptable.

My expectations from that quarter the last year were disapointed. The last Letter from Captain Wright is dated 1st September last, but I flatter myself I shall now hear from him very shortly. I am very truly and respectfully, Sir, Your most Humble Servant,

GEO. HAYLEY

STOCKER AND WHARTON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Philadelphia, May 23d, 1775.

Sir,

WE have before us your favor of the 16th Inst. inclosing a letter for Mr. Buchanan of Baltimore which we have this day forwarded by Post. We rec'd, a little time since, a letter from Mr. Row'd Norris to the same purport as that to Mr. Fowler we suppose, when any further Accounts comes to our hands shall communicate them to you. its a doubt with us if more than 80/ for the Seed can be obtain'd. however this you may depend upon that Mr. Norris will consult the Interest of the concernd in the Sale of it. We have rec'd the Sales of the Flaxseed from Mr. Conyngham, but in our hurry we have omited to transmit you a Copy. if we have time to take a Copy before this Vessel goes shall send it. The proceeds is £1066.2.7*d* Irish, but we think a small part of the Proceeds was non remitted. The Sale of the Flour Mess. Parr, Bulkeley & Co. have not sent to us — which by the by is not very clever. We find Mr. Foxcroft[1] had discharged the Post Riders, but we hear he has again sett them agoing. there is Post between this and N. York paid by some private persons, but whether they mean to continue it or not if the other is regular we dont know. we most heartily wish them unnatural disputes were at an end, and Harmony between the two Countrys again restored; but if the Americans should now be base enough (which however at present there seems to be no danger of) to give up their Liberties, they must ever after be content

[1] Assistant Postmaster General.

to be ranked amongst Slaves. We remain with respect, Sir, Your Very Humble Servants,

STOCKER AND WHARTON

[Endorsed,] Per Cap. Whitman, Q D. C.

Memo. A/C Sales of my 1/3 *Peggy* Cargo Flour consignd Parr, Bulkeley & Co. has been recd by C. C. by which the difference of profit or loss between that and the Flaxseed to Ireland must be fixed.[1]

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO [BRIMMER?][2]

Newport, May 31, 1775.

Dear Sir,

THIS will be handed you by Capt. William Barron of my Ship *Peggy*, who loaded at Baltimore on Freight for Account of Mr. Archibald Buchanan and Mr. George Mathews Merchants there, consigned to Messrs. Lawton and Brown of Cork.

There to receive orders from Messrs. Wallace Davidson and Johnston, Merchants of London, to proceed either to Bristol, Liverpool or London for a Market. meeting with continued head winds his wood and water proveing short, judged it prudent to put in here for a recruit. whereupon Capt. Wallace having taken possession of her and Cargo, the latter by orders from Admiral Graves, for the use of the Fleet and Army at Boston, and has now sent her round under command of his officer. this being out of my power to prevent have made the necessary Protests which the Capt. has with him. this matter is extremely hard on me and is attended with much expence. Capt. Wallace assures me every farthing of my Freight will be paid me as if landed at her port of destination (and will recommend my

[1] April 6, Josiah Hewes reported the following prices at Philadelphia: Jamaica rum, 3/7 to 3/9; Windward, 3/1 to 3/2; New England, 2/2; molasses, 21*d.* to 22*d.*, scarce; sugars, 42/6 to 50/, plenty; loaf sugar, 13*d.*; coffee, 8 to 9*d.*; cocoa, 95/ to 100/; chocolate, 17*d.*; indigo, 11/, French; fine flour, 19/ to 21/; common flour, 14/9 to 15/3; wheat, 6/3; bread, 13/; beef, 57/6; pork, 62/6; horns, 6½; lard, 6*d.*; cotton 2/2, none. Bills of exchange 57½ per cent, no demand."

[2] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

case to the admiral), as both Ship, Cargo, and Freight are insured, and of course can never have any return of Premium upon either, the Voyage having commenced, and also the owners of the Cargo will be fully paid if taken for the Kings use. but if not required, the Ship will be alowed to proceed on her Voyage, paying me a just Demurrage for her de-Sention and great expense I am put to in consequence thereof. With that hope the Master continues in her, and have shiped a new sett of hands, the old ones having quitted. I must earnestly ask both your's and Mr. Lyells influence to prevail with the Admiral to let her proceed; but if not alowed, that I have bills given me at the common exchange for the amount of her Freight agreeable to the manifest inclosed, and that my Ship is returned to Newport in safety, unless you can send her to Quebeck under your direction and procure a Freight from thence to Great Britain or Ireland, or up the Streights. but the property of the Ship must be altered by registering her in some Gentlemans name at Quebeck. in fact if I could obtain £1000 Stg. for the Ship in good Bills on London well indorsed, had rather sell her at Quebeck in earnest, and put an end to my concern these precarious times, and judge from the stop of Northern Ships going there this Season as usual vessels will be greatly wanted. therfore, as she is a fine new strong Ship will sell quick at a good price, I must therefore submit the afair to your Direction. if you judge I can neither sell the Ship at Quebeck, for the sum of £1000 Stg., nor can you recommend him to any Gentlemen there that will cover my Ship and procure me a Freight on the best Terms given there, which I think will be 14*d* per bush. to Lisbon, and in proportion if proceeds farther, then she must return to Newport in ballast and lay her by to rot. Shoud she proceed to Quebeck a Pilot must be furnished. no employ in the Governmental way will do if known, I shoud be made very unhappy here therefore [it] will not do. I apprehend the Justice Government proceeds upon in cases of this kind will intitual me to the highest Freight viz. 5/9 Stg. per Barr. and 14*d* per bush. for the Grain, bills on

London at common Exchange will do for my Freight, and suppose the Proprietors of the Cargo at Baltimore Town Maryland will accept of them also. And shoud the Cargo be taken for the Crown I coud wish you woud advise them per Post of the same and ask their directions, how to act for them, as neither Capt. Barron nor my self can meddle any farther than to inform them and transmit a Copy of his Protests. I will at the same time mention you to them in a proper way. youll please to note the Cargo is all superfine Flour for the London Market cost 4/ more than common per C. Query whither Government may require such and do Justice to the owners. Barron will wholy walk by your directions shoud the ship be unloaded. I flatter my self the admiral will assist the Capt. in ballasting her as she will oversett otherwise.

I think by the restraining act the Ship may proceed to Quebeck in my name if cleared out before the 1st day of July at Salem, though she must proceed from thence in the name of some Gentlemen of that Province; and, if possible, let her take Freight for the Streights in preference to any other. what expences the Ship may be at please to supply for my a/c. If he shoud want a hand, you may have influence to procure him one, — all which I submit to your Friendship and Direction, and am, Dr Sir, Your most humble Servant,

CHRIS. CHAMPLIN

SAMUEL AND JACOB KING WENT TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Barbados, June 9th, 1775.

Gentlemen,

WE are now to acknowledge the receipt of your favours of the 20 February 8th and 24th of March, inclosing letters for Captain Robert Champlin, which you may depend shall be delivered to him on his arrival.

Captain Mowatt arrived here a few days past and tells us that when he left the Coast which was the 15th of April last Captain Champlin was very well had 50 odd Slaves, and expected to be off in about six weeks. We apprehend he wrote you by Captain Mowatt and that he has forwarded the letter by this conveyance. We are, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servants,

SAM: AND JA: KING WENT

WILLIAM BARRON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN[1]

Boston, June the 10, 1775.

Sir,

THIS is to inform you of my saife arivel hear on the 6 and find by Mr. Brimyer that the ship will be discharg'd hear, which the Genarle sais he will give all the dispatch he can. But I have not discharged one Barrel yet and I dont know the time set for thay are in grat confusion hear. Mr. Brimyer tells me that there will be no fair of a freight at Quebeck which I shall endeavor to get the high's freight to. it is imposable Sir for me to inform you aney thing consarnig the setivation of this unhappy place, for every thing is kep so silent and the town so well garde with soldiers, that thay will not let you go aney way exept just in the middel of the town. Mr. Brimyer promises to get me all the Despatch that is in power. I have nothing mor at present Sir, but shall right again in a few days by Capt. Webster, and I hop by that time I shall be better able to inform you abough maters, and remain Sir your verry humble Sarvent,

William Barron

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Parr, Bulkeley and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, the 14th June, 1775.

Sir,

We had the pleasure of paying you our last respects under the 8th March, contents of which we now confirm, are since without the pleasure of a single line from you. the present serves chiefly to acquaint you that agreeable to what we hinted in our antecedent we remitted your friends Messrs. Halley & Hopkins the 22d March Rs. 120$000, Exchange $65\frac{7}{8}$, and have now the pleasure to inform you that by the last Packet which sailed the 10th Inst. we remitted your said London friends Rs. 200$000*r*, Exchange $65\frac{3}{4}$ per $, being what we find ourselves in Cash on your account, and may rest assured that efforts shall not be wanting in collecting the remainder of the outstanding debts, and remittances made without loss of time.

Our Market now begins to gain favour for your produce, owing to the late Drought which has greatly prejudiced the Wheat harvest. add to this, the advices that we lately received, that the New yorkers had shut up their Ports, with a probability of every port following their spirited plan, so that we are housing three Cargoes that we are now unloading with Wheat and Flour, altho our Stores are burthened with said articles, and we hope in a few months to open a sale at golden prices, and not having worth your detention remain with regard and esteem, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants,

Parr, Bulkeley and Co.

Flour 3.400
Wheat 440 to 460
Corn 320
Exchange $65\frac{3}{4}d$ per $.

P. S. We are very glad to find Capt. Barron got a freight for your Ship to Bristol.

Christopher Champlin to James Wallace

On His Majesty's Service.

Newport, June 19th, 1775.

Sir,

Agreeable to information lodged with you in writing of 6th Inst. that I expected from Philadelphia in the Brig. *Charlotte*, John Fryers Master, three hundred cask of Bread, thirty Barr's of Pork and some Flour, for the use of the Contract which I agreed with Mr. George Gibbs to import for that purpose, and accordingly last week advanced him fifty pounds lawfull money in part payment for the same, Mr. Gibbs now informs me those articles are come agreeable to his Contract, but that you have determin'd to send the greater part round to Boston.

It therefore becomes my duty to inform you in behalf the contractors, if I am deprived of receiving this Bread (being the only resource I have left) it will greatly distress the Contract and wholy put it out of my power to comply with the future Demands of any of His Majesty's Ships on this Station in the article of Bread.

I therefore rest upon the protection of Captain Wallace in behalf of the Contractors, and could wish it was expedient with His Majesty's Service that the whole of the Bread might be retained here for the use it was imported for. I am with much respect, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

Chris. Champlin

[Memo.] Copy letter James Wallace Esq. Commander of His Majesty's Ship of Warr, at Newport.

George Hayley to Aaron Lopez

[London,] 17 July, 1775.

Sir,

The foregoing Copy of my last respects I confirm; since which I am favoured with yours of the 31st May. I am obliged to you for your remarks on what I mentioned re-

specting the 4 bills drawn on me in favour of H. & H. and for your leaving me at large to act therein as I may find it convenient; I am entirely of the same mind as when I last troubled you on the subject and hope I shall be able to settle the whole of them, but for the reasons I then mentioned I wish not to be positively bound. That for £4000 which became due the 30th June I have paid and debited you in Account Current for it. I am also obliged to you for noting the several Insurances mentioned in your Letter now before me in conformity and have agreable to your instructions credited your Account and debited Mr. Rotch's for ¼ of that on the *Clarissa* £29.12.7, and as I find neither that Vessell nor the *Juno* will proceed from Jamaica for London, I will adjust with the Insurers the return of premio for that part of the Voyage and advise you the particulars thereof in my next. I shall pay particular attention to all you write about the future proceedings of the *Nancy*, but there certainly is no chance of any accomodation so as to enable her to load for Newport. I fear that happy time is still at a great distance; Whenever it does come, you will find me ever disposed to serve you to the utmost of my power and in the mean time I have the most entire confidence that you will be exerting your endeavors to the utmost in placing all the remittance you are able in my hands, that if a total stagnation of remittance does take place it may thereby be made as tolerable as such a distressing event will admitt of.

I have already paid my respects to you under the firm of my late partnership and date of the 15th. I therein mentioned that I had not had a line from Captain Wright, but since writing that Letter I have one from him dated the 21st May in which he informs me that the *Clarissa* and the *Juno* would neither of them proceed for London, but he says nothing about his intentions respecting the former to enable me to govern my self in making the Insurance you desire on her future Voyage, which I am therefore unable to execute at present; but if any of his future Letters should give me the necessary information care shall be

taken to cover her. He tells me the Crops are so short that he fears the *Nancy* will be very far from a full Ship but that he is determined to dispatch her in all June. He remitts me a bill for £1200 on Meyler & Co. of Bristol at 4 months sight which is gone thither for acceptance and if I have an answer before this Letter goes to Bag, you shall find its success noted at foot. I hope it will prove a good bill; This is I suppose the bill you mention for part purchase of the *Juno*, as he directs ¾ of its amount to be placed to your credit and the other ¼ to the credit of Mr. Rotch, which shall be punctually complied with if the bill is paid. He says nothing in his Letter of any further remittance but I nevertheless hope to receive more from him by some of the expected Ships. I am very respectfully, Sir, Your most Humble Servant,

GEO. HAYLEY

The £1200 bill on Bristol is accepted.

ISAAC WERDEN TO AARON LOPEZ

Dominica, the 21st of August, 1775.

Dear Sir,

SINCE Capt. Shearman left this the times are greatly alter'd. we are told here that the kings ships makes reprisals of every thing going into or comming out of the Port of Rhode Island, that is, the property of any merchant there, and puts me to a great unplush how to behave. I have already received the greatest half and soon expect the remainder of your demand against Mr. Harris, and as the bearer Mr. John Fine, Copartner of Mr. Grant of New York, will speedily return, if you have no other oppertunity let me know how and in what manner I am to remitt you the money. If in goods of the produce of these Islands or if a Bill of Exchange to London your advice and council in this precarious matter is truly needfull, and should you have any other Commands in these parts that I can serve please to command me freely.

Port of *Falmouth*

THESE are to Certify, That on this Day came to this His Majesty's Custom-House in Falm.o Jacob Wildes Master or Commander of the Brig.e Liberty Burthen 391 Tons, or thereabouts, Mounted with 4 Guns, Navigated with 6 Men, Plantation built, and here Entered said Brig.e and Cargo, from Nevis and here produced a Certificate, from the proper Officers, Dated at the Custom-House there the 4th Instant

That he became Bound with one sufficient Surety, in the Sum of One Thousand Pounds with Condition, That all such non enumerated Goods as were there laden on board said Vessel should not be landed in any part of Europe, to the Northward of Cape-Finisterre, except in Great-Britain or Ireland. And it is hereby further certified that there hath been here landed from on board said Brig.e

Ten Hogsheads of Rum 8
Four Kegs Nails

Dated at the Custom-House at Falmouth the 26th August in the 15th Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, KING of Great Britain, &c. Anno Domini, 1775

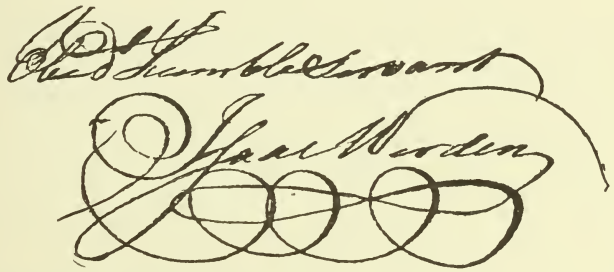
J. Lyde, Coll.r & Insp.r

Jos. Dennis Hemph

Tho Child Deputy

I find my wife has taken up of Mr. Oliver Smith and charged to Messrs. Grant and Fine, since my last to you which I have paid here this day, some money, so that she may not have the need of calling on you for the sum I desired you to give her; but if she should contrary to my expectations have need you'l please to supply the sum I directed in my last, which I will with greatfull thanks repay you as soon as I may know it. Capt. James Clark formally of Newport daily expects his wife and daughter from thence. If they should come or you may have occation by them or any other to draw on me for the Neat Proceeds of what I have in hand at a short sight, as I am some times in the remote parts of the Country, your Draught will be duly honoured.

I beg my best wishes may attend you and your good family and am, Dear Sir, Your most



[Endorsed,] Favor of Mr. Jno. Fine.

George Hayley to Aaron Lopez

London, 31st August, '75.

Sir,

I CONFIRM the foregoing Copy of my last respects, and have now the pleasure to advise the safe arrival of the *Nancy*, who makes a very poor Voyage, being about 200 Casks short. she is now unloading, and when that is finished I see no way of employing her, but returning her to Jamaica in Ballast. I have settled the return of premio on the *Clarissa* and the *Juno* for not proceeding from Jamaica to London, and have credited you £54.9. being

£3.6 per Cent on the £1650 insured on your Account on her, and £44.11. being £3.6 per Ct. also on the £1350 insured for your Account on her, which please notice accordingly. Capt: Wright has not yet informed me what Voyage the *Clarissa* proceeds on, so am not able to make any Insurance on her. I hope she will go safe. he has sent me by the *Nancy* some Pipe and Barrell Staves, for Account of the Owners of the *Nancy*, and some Plank and Barrell Staves for Account of the Owners of the *Juno*, which shall be taken care of, and accounted for when sold. he has also remitted me a Bill for £150 on William Miles of Bristol which is accepted, and when in Cash, be placed ½ to your Credit, agreable to his directions. He remitts likewise a Bill for £271.13 on Edw. Minifie, of which he directs ¾ to be placed to your Credit; but this Bill is noted for Non Acceptance, and I fear will be protested, of which you may depend due care shall be taken. He does not give me hopes of so large remittances as I had flattered myself with, for which he gives many reasons. the delay of remittances to such an unreasonable length in his hands greatly hurts me. I must hope you will be able to fall upon some method of quickening him in future. I have since my last received your favour of the 30 June, in which you mention having noted the Settlement of the £400 Insurance on the *Diana* in conformity. I think my next will give you the Settlement of the remaining £100. I have had a meeting with the Insurer, and he promises to pay it soon. I notice part of your Whaling Vessells are sailed for the Vinyard, and that the others wou'd soon follow. I shall be very glad to hear they are sailed from thence, as the report here is they will not be suffered to depart. The same I must say respecting the Vessell in which you have taken a concern with Mr. Rotch, whose arrival here will give me great pleasure, as I am not without apprehension of her also being stoped. if she has been suffered to sail, I may be expecting her here very soon. I am, etc.

GEORGE HAYLEY.

Copy. Original per Mr. Hughes via Boston.

George Hayley to Aaron Lopez

20 September, 1775.

Sir,

Since my last of which the foregoing is Copy I have received from Captain Wright the following bills

James Miller on Serocold & Co. 90 days sight	£100.—
Eph'm Dunn . . Jas. Margetson Do . .	200. –
Do. . . . . Do 9 months sight with Interest from the expiration of 90 days	300. —
W. H. Ricketts on Long & Co.	184. 1. 6
Hugh White on Meyler & Co. of Bristol . .	67.13. –
Jas. Campbell on John Parkinson	153.11. 5
Jas. Williams on Edw'd Minifie	624. 5. –

the one half of each of which bills he directs to be placed to your credit. The 4 first mentioned are accepted and his orders respecting will of course be complied with when in cash. That on Meyler and Maxse for £67.13.–, is gone to Bristol and you shall know its success in my next. The other two are noted for Non-Acceptance and if not paid when due shall be returned with proper protests; but it will be a long while before the final fate of that on Minifie will be known. He has also remitted me wholly upon your Account a bill for £187.11.7 on John Roberts and Son of Liverpool, which is gone thither for acceptance, the success of which you shall be regularly informed of. Mr. Josiah Hewes of Philadelphia has remitted me since my last two bills of £250 each, one on John Motteux and Co. and the other on Buchanan and Co. both which are accepted, and ⅔ of each are to be placed to your credit. He has also remitted me a bill for £300 drawn by Willing and Morris, ⅔ for your Account, but this bill is noted for Non-Acceptance. I am however inclined to think it will be paid when due, if not you may depend due care shall be taken to return it with the needful protest.

I am now to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 21 July in which you direct £5000 Insurance on the Ship *Francis*, Captain John Buckley, her cargo and freight from Newport, etc., to London, which I have effected and herewith you have the Account thereof, premio, etc., of £2500, being one half thereof, is placed to your debit, in £62.15.3. I shall be very happy in advising you of her safe arrival which I hope may be in a few days.

The *Nancy* is now in the dock and will as soon as she is ready sail from hence direct for Jamaica in Ballast. I have therefore made £3000 Insurance on her and her freight to Jamaica and London for account of her Owners, for one half of which I have debited your Account £94.7.9 as per particulars herewith, which I have no doubt you will approve. Youll please observe that I have only made £3000 Insurance on her though the Sum insured on her last Voyage was £4000; but if you think proper to have another £1000 added on her from Jamaica to London please lett me know and it shall be done. I am very respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

GEO. HAYLEY

Since writing the above the bill on Meyler and Maxse of Bristol for £67.13. is return'd accepted.

MAYN AND CO. TO AARON LOPEZ

Lisbon, the 26th September, 1775

Sir,

OUR last respects to you were under date the 19th June which we now confirm, and acknowledge receipt of your much esteemed favour of 9th June, with duplicates of what you wrote us the 20th April. We sincerely condole with you on the unhappy Contests that subsist between Great Britain and your Continent, to which we eagerly wish to see soon an amicable accommodation, and your trade to

flourish in its usual train, though we fear from the lengths both Parties have carried matters, a reconciliation is somewhat distant, and the future consequences be of disagreeable tendency. Inclosed is a letter from Captain Story for you, to whom we referr you for the particulars of the Spanish expedition against Algiers, in which he was employed, and though it proved very unsuccessfull to them, we hope he will find benefit from it as also the concerned in his vessell.[1] By last Post, we had advice of the dismission of all the Transports, and of Captain Storys arrival at Barcelona from Alicante, and his intention to proceed to Cadiz, from whence we expect to hear from him, as also of his meeting with some good employment there, that will be productive of great advantage to the concerned. In failure thereof, he will either return to the Coast of Barbary to try what success he may have in the purchase of a Cargo of Wheat or Barley, if he finds it practicable, or proceed to Sicily for a loading of Wheat, where the extraction will be granted, and may be bought on reasonable terms; he will therefore pursue one or other of those plans, as he may think most likely to conduce to our benefits; his rout we shall be carefull to advise you in course.

We now beg leave to acquaint you that a Person lately arrived from the Rio de Janeiro informs us that Captain Lothrop and his mate died both there, of the Small Pox, in Prison. The sundry letters we received from him was forwarded to your friends Messrs. Hayley and Hopkins of London who, we suppose will think it worth their while to make application to the Court of Portugal about that affair, and we have already wrote you very explicitly on the subject. We are on all occasions with perfect regard and esteem, Sir, Your obedient Humble Servants,

MAYN AND CO

[1] See *Cambridge Modern History*, VI. 374.

Parr, Bulkeley and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, 4 October, 1775.

Sir:

The last we had the pleasure of writing you was the 14th June, since which we are without any of your most esteem'd favours.

We are at this time only 58$675 in cash on your Account, too small a sum to be able to get a Bill for, but flatter ourselves shall soon be able to prevail on some of your debtors to bring in their payments, when we will without loss of time forward a remittance, and if possible per our next hand you Account Sales of your Adventure per the *Peggy*.

Our market is glutted with America produce, and the stopage of importations from thence has had no manner of effect on this market, as throughout Europe we have had most abundant harvests; even Great Britain, which for nine years past has not exported a grain of Wheat, and for the two last years has imported it from abroad, this year abounds therewith, insomuch as to be enabled to export, which actually has taken place with a bounty, and one Cargoe of it is arrived here, from which we inferr this place will be plentifully supplyd, and at a moderate rate, which we communicate for your government in case you should think of engageing in your produce. We are most Respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servants,

Parr, Bulkeley and Co

Flour 3$000, Rice 3$800 per Quintal
Wheat 420*rs*, Corn 260*rs*. per Alq'r.

Christopher Champlin to the Committee of Norwich, Connecticut

Gentlemen,

Having recd from Mr. Jacob Watson of N. York one of the Freighters of my unfortunate Ship *Peggy*, William Barron Master, a Copy of the Resolve of the Honorable

Continental Congress respecting the permitting said ship to proceed on her intended voyage with her Cargo of wheat taken on board at N. York, baring date at Philadelphia, 15 Nov., 1775,[1] upon which I repaired hear with all the dispatch in my power, therefore as it apears from said Resolution of the Congress the ship ought to proceed [on] her intended voyage under your Inspection with the apointment of a new Master to be approved by you, and as I am the sole owner of said ship I presume it lays with me only to appoint. Willing that every possible objection shoud be removed with regard to the future destination of the ship I am induced to offer for your approbation a Gentleman wholy a stranger to me, and well known to you, to command said ship, one who is recommended to me to be a Person of Ability and Integrity, viz. Captain Seth Hardin of this town, who it cannot be supposed I have the least previous Influence over, and I flatter my self you cannot have any objection to him. as my ship is now ready to take on board said Cargo of wheat having repaired her Damages and fitted her for the Sea, I must therefore in the name of the Freighters and well as myself, require Permission of you to take on board said Cargo of Wheat, agreeable to the Resolves of the Congress; and as the Season is now so far advanced that its daily expected the navigation of your River may be stoped with Ice and my ship continues here at a great expence I must earnestly request the favor

[1] "Your Committee think there are just grounds to suspect, that William Barron, the master of the ship *Peggy*, would not be very solicitous to prevent the cargo, which might be useful to the ministerial army, from falling into the possession of the men of war, he having been before taken in the same ship, in Rhode Island, with a cargo from Chesapeak Bay, for Europe, nor can your Committee approve the conduct of the Owner of the Ship who continued the captain afterwards. Your Committee are therefore of opinion, that another master ought to be appointed to the said ship, who shall be approved by the committee of Norwich, and that the time of her sailing, as well as her tract be appointed by that committee, and the master sworn to use his best endeavours to prevent the said ship falling into the possession of any men of war or cutter, and to pursue as far as he can, the orders of the said committee in navigating the said ship, on which terms your committee are of opinion the said ship ought to be permitted to proceed with her cargo." *Journals of the Continental Congress* (L. of C. ed.), III. 354.

you will please to take into consideration this afternoon these matters and give me your determination thereon that I may know how to proceed If it's agreeable I shall be ready to wait upon you and answer any questions you may think necessary for information. your compliance herewith will greatly oblige, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humb servant,

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Norwich in Connecticut, Dec. 5., 1775.

To the Gentlemen of the Committee for the Town of Norwich in Conecticut.

P. S. I have requested the bearer Mr. Abial Chany to Wait upon you with this request.

A True Copy on file.

Test Elisha Lathrop, *Clerk Pro tempore.*

[On the back of this letter is the following:]

At a Meeting of the Committee of Correspondence and Inspection of the town of Norwich legally convened in Norwich aforesaid the 6th day of December, 1775, at the Request of Chris: Champlin Esqr, owner of the ship *Peggy* now laying at Norwich landing, Capt. Ebenezer Bauldwin in the Chair, Elisha Lathrap was chosen *Clerk Protempore.*

PARR, BULKELEY & CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Lisbon, 12th January, 1776.

Sir:

OUR last Respects was the 4th October, with Occurrences in trade, and being since deprived of the Pleasure of your favors, we come now to hand you Account Sales of 1540 bls flour, per the *Peggy*, Captain Barron your 1/3d Net Proceeds being *Rs.* 2631$432[1] is placed to your Credit, without

[1] Accounts in Portugal were kept in reis, a milreis being the exchange unit, worth an uncertain number of pence sterling. The dollar mark separates the figure into thousand reis.

our prejudice till in Cash, which on finding wright, please to have noted in our Conformity. Of your Debtors, have collected to this time *Rs.* 84$351 but we flatter ourselves more will come in soon, when we will remit it to your London friends. Respecting our Market, it is a very poor one particularly for flour, now down to 2800 to 3$ per quintal, Cadiz and Ports aloft also Galicia[1] and Biscaya are also glutted, prices for flour and Wheat low and also nominal, and to what a low Ebb would America produce have been, had the Trade not been interrupted. We pray for a Reconciliation of the present Troubles, that Commerce may return to its prestine Serenity. Respectfully we are, Sir, Your obedient and very humble Servants,

PARR, BULKELEY & COMPANY

Flour	2$800 to 3$000	Corn	.260
Wheat.	400 to 420	Exchange	.65⅞
Rice	3$800		

Philadelphia, May 6. Reced Via Statia and forwarded by your Humble Servant,
WM. DAVIS.

1136157

BERTHON BROTHERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Lisbon, the 18th January, 1776.

Sir,

WE have before us your favor of 30th August, which requiring no particular reply we proceed to acquaint you that inclosed you have account sale of 1485 barrels flour per *Peggy*, your 1/4d of the same neating *Rs.* 1429$914 is carried to your credit. We are sorry that our first connection in trade should be attended with loss; but when we consider the dismal accounts we shall give of several other concerns in our hands, we can but think that the owners of the *Peggy's* cargo are fortunate not to lose more. By the first packett we shall remit Mr. Geo. Hayley 200$ on your account, and we hope that the remainder will come in in such manner as to enable us to remit the ballance quickly.

[1] An old province of Spain at the northwest extremity of the peninsula, forming the provinces of Corunna, Lugo, Orense and Pontevedra.

"The Act to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the Colonies" is passed, it repeals the Boston port bills and the fishery and restraining bills, therefore no vessells can either clear from or enter at your lower counties, and the trade in general must stop.

We wish you a speedy restoration to that peace and comfort which you enjoy'd before the present unhappy disputes commenced, and saluting you we remain with regard, Sir, Your most humble and obedient Servants,

BERTHON BROTHERS

JACOB WATSON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN[1]

New York, 1 Mo. 24, 1776.

Respected Friend,

THY favour of 11. was handed me by thy brother. we had encouragement from one of the Delegates of the Continental Congress that we should not be sufferers by the *Peggy's* Cargo of wheat.

I intend waiting on them once more. if they take the Wheat I will use my best endeavours to get employment for thy ship, likewise damages for her detention if in my power.

Should I not succeed in that, intend to request that on our selling the Wheat at Norwich to have the Liberty to ship the like quantity from this port in thine or any other Vessell.[2]

Should thou decline to let thy ship come down and take it in would be glad to be inform'd as soon and convenient. Perhaps at my return we may be straighten'd for time to write, for should thou not chuse thy ship to come here we wo'd engage another.

Its uncertain when I shall set out, as General Lee[3] is coming to Town and am desirous to know what steps he intends to take before I leave home.

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[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] See *Journals of the Continental Congress* (L. of C. ed.), IV. 117, 120, 124.

[3] Major General Charles Lee, sent to superintend the defense of Philadelphia.

I forwarded the protests with thy letter to George Haley, per *Sampson*, Capt. Coupar, who sail'd from this port about 12 Inst. shall send Copies per next conveyance, believes via Phil'a. I am thy Respect'll Friend,

JACOB WATSON[1]

P. S. If thee would take £1000 for thy ship N. York currency[2] believes wo'd take her.

[Endorsed,] South Kingston, R. I.

THOMAS DOLBEAR TO AARON LOPEZ

Kingston, Jamaica, 24th January, 1776.

Dear Sir,

I WAS favoured with yours some time since, and am very sorry that I can't acquaint you with the adjustment of Cox's account, as he has been at the north side of the Island, which has been the only preventive. he will soon be here, when I will not fail of settling so long standing troublesome affair. I find by your account you have charged £40 freight of Iron to Jamaica, which we have long since settled with Captain Wright. I find also that instead of Dollars being reckoned at 6/8d, the Sterling should be brot into Currency which makes an odds on the two £157.10/ of £17.6.6 in my favour, Dollars being at 6/8d from the Policy of this Island, not from the Par of Exchange or intrinsic value. be pleased (as I am in haste) to acquaint Mr. Reveira I have sold about 1/3d of his Candles at 3/9d, for which I expect the remainder will sell, but cannot sell whole at more than 3/1½ to make the remittance immediately. I therefore thot it most adviseable to retail them at 3/9d. I shall remit Geo. Hayley Esq. as fast as I can get Bills and make sale. as soon as I receive the Balance of Mr. Cox will remit it agreeable to orders. I remain very sincerely Your much obliged obedient Servant,

THOS. DOLBEAR

Endorsed, Per Captain Remington.

[1] In 1768 he was partner of John Murray, general importers of European and Indian goods, with a shop near Burling's slip.

[2] New York counted eight shillings to the dollar.

John Jepson to Christopher Champlin

Portsmouth, 1st February, 1776.

Sir,

Please to settle my negro man Serloues Wages on bord Captain Barren with Captain Benjamin Hicks and pay him whats due, which will oblige, Sir, Your humble Servant,

John Jepson

Newport, February 1, 1776.

Recd. of Chris. Champlin One hundred and Forty-six pounds ten shillings and 8*d* in full of Wages due to Captain Jepson on account of his Negro Sirloise.

£146: 10: 8.

Benj. Hicks

Zebediah Story to Aaron Lopez[1]

Mallaga, February 3, 1776.

Sir,

On the 9th December last I sailed from Sisciley with a Cargo of Wheat which I loaded on account of Messrs. Maynes & Co. of Lisbon, to whom the same is to be delivered except the Spainish Merkits might aford a better price which seems not to be the case. I have been detained in this Port with a westerly wind sence the 5 Jan'y, in which time I have rec'd a Letter from our worthey friend Mr. Edward Mayne Esqr. of London signifying that those confused disturbances between Great Brittain and america were become verry alarming and that a Bill was depending in Parliment which was thoat would pass, to seize on the Property of the americans wherever the same might be found, makeing no distinction between the innocent and guilty (the Unjustness of which Act would make a Barbarian blush). In consequence of those infernal Storms riseing which threttens our Destruction, I have ben induced to sell our 2/3 of the *Venus* to

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Messrs. Kirk Partrick & Co. altho what they have given is considerably less than what I realy think she is worth. I have given those Gentlemen a Bill of Saile of our 2/3 of the *Venus* in the Name of Messrs. Maynes & Co. of Lisbon in consideration for which they have given me their Bill of Exchange on Messrs. Maynes and Co. of Lisbon payable in London for five hundred pounds Sterling the first of which I have forwarded for acceptance the second I keep with me as I am bound their my self with this Cargo the first fair wind. the Net Proceeds of your one third part I shall give orders to be remitted as you shall direct.

I have none of your favours later than July last. I am verry uneasey for my little famuley and the only thing that tends to passify me is the friendship of so able a Person as your worthey self, from whom I have reason to expect my little flock will have every timely assistance they may want. I have recomended it to Mrs. Story to remoove into the Country in Preston where I have a Brother for fear sum voilent methods may be taken against Newport next Spring. I wish this may not be the case before this reaches you. I think after that crewil Proclamation from the E. of Dunmore you have little reason to expect Mercy.[1] May the Almighty direct and protect you from those barbarous insults prepairing for you, is the sincere Prayer of Sir your Most Humble Servant

ZEB. STORY

FRANCIS ROTCH TO AARON LOPEZ

London, 20th February, 1776.

My dear Sir,

I HARDLY expect from the accounts I have been able to collect that it is posible for this to find you at Jamaica, but let it meet you where it will you will I presume be astonish'd at hearing from me in London at so late a date. The various unfortunate occurrences that has attended this

[1] May 6, 1775. Force, *American Archives*, 4th Ser., II. 516.

pursuit had nearly defeated all our purposes, the most material of which are a seizure of five of our Vessells on their voyage and bringing them to England, to wit. the *Falkland*, *Enterprise*, *Abigail*, *Minerva*, and *Diana*. This was done previous to the restraining act being pass'd, and by tedious application I got them released again but attended with the loss of all our men, the replacing of which occasion'd such delay as subjected us to the greatest severity of weather almost ever known in England.

The Thames was froze for a month that nothing could be done, but we have at last got the *Nancy* ready for departure and expect to be at Sea in 5 or 6 days.

The three first mentioned whalemen we got to Sea before the cold weather come on. they sailed the forepart of January and had a fine time off.

The *Minerva* stranded upon the ways and is orderd to be sold for the most she will fetch. the *Diana* is unfit for Sea. The *Flora* has been sailed some time and the *Francis* is to take the *Minerva's* stores and the *Diana's* and to come after us in a few days.

I have wrote to Captain Wright concerning his part of the *Nancy* to whom must refer you, and at same time beg you will adjust this matter with him. This Ship was valued as she came last from Sea, in the Thames at £1700. I have offer'd Captain Wright £600 for his quarter. I dare not be very particular in writeing to you at this time, not knowing where this letter may fall. Should you be at Jamaica and the communication with London should be safe, I must refer you to our mutual friend, George Hayley Esqr. for intelligence of what has been done here. Mr. Smith by mutual concent is dismis'd from the Concern. Should any of our whalemen be seized by the late restraining act and carried to any port in the West Indies, you will doubtless direct the master to make a claim for yourself, a resident at Jamaica and for me a resident in London and appeal to the Lords Commissioners as the act directs, and bring the case to England where these claims may be supported and the property sav'd. I have desird Captain Wright to do the

same. wishing you all happiness with Mrs. Lopez and family, Mr. Rivera and family, I subsc[r]ibe, Dr. Sir, Your assured friend and Servant,

FRANCIS ROTCH

ARCHIBALD BUCHANAN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Cambridg, 14 March, 1776.

Sir,

I AM sorry its not in my power to call upon you as I return. I have Companions that want to go the Upper Road to see the Country, and I cannot prevaile upon them to go by little Rusk [Rest?] I coud not obtain the liberty of meeting Mr. Brymer[1] at the Lines as our Generall [Washington] had refused it to severall before and he told me it was out of his power, but allowed me to send in Letters. I wrote Mr. Brymer and Chamier[2] they wrote me out and appointed a day to meet me. I made the second application for a personal interview but to no purpose. however the General sent Coll. Mifflin[3] to the Lines to do any business I might have. I wrote Mr. Brymer fully and gave Coll. Mifflin full directions. he met Mr. Chamier and Brymer on the Lines where they both expected me. Mr. Brymer told Coll Mifflin he wanted to see me very much but as it was impossible desired him to acquaint me that since his letter to you wherein he promised to remitt me Bills for the Amount of the Certificate (conditionally) he had taken the advice of Consul and found he shoud be liable if he drew such Bills if Goverment refus'd paying the Certificate but that my Money was safe and if I w[ou]d write him my friends in London he woud order the money to be paid into their hands. this is all the satisfaction I receiv'd from Mr. Brymer. I wrote to him that Conditional Bills might be drawn. You are acquainted with him and can guess our

[1] Martin Brimmer, a merchant of Boston, or John B. Brimmer, mentioned in a later letter.

[2] Daniel Chamier, British Commissary General.

[3] Thomas Mifflin.

chance. I hope we shall get paid some day. You kno doubt have heard of the Troops, that they are about leaving Boston. about 60 sale fell down before I left it. I waited some days with an intention of writing Mr. Brymer my Friends in London but canot get no Flag. as it is expected their destination will be somewhere convenient to Long Island or Rhode Island, I shoud be oblig'd to you to drop Mr. Brymer a few Lines and mention my friends in London Messrs. Wallace, Davidson and Johnson and if payment of the Certificates are to be had order the Money to be paid there. The Papers you gave me that I promised to return I will take care off. I have a Brother in [Lo]ndon which I shall send Copys to as soon as I [return] to Maryland, and shall by a private oppertunity in[form] you as soon as I return. as I am much deeper in than you, be assurd that the Papers will be taken care off on both our Accounts, but you shall have a proper attested Copy. pray excuse my not calling. it was a disagreeable Rode alone. if you should at any time have any commands with us or any plan of business can be brought about I shoud with pleasure correspondent with you. My Compliments to Mrs. Champlin, and I sincerely wish you and your Family may get happily fixd again. I am, Sir, Your Obedient Humble Servant,

ARCH'D BUCHANAN

[Endorsed,] Mr. Christopher Champlin, Little Rusk.

JAMES MCCOMB TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN[1]

Norwich, 16 March 1776.

Sir,

I HAVE just seen yours to Mr. Clement, who has given me one for Mr. Watson, which shall immediately forward to him by a vessel who sails this day for N. York. Mr. Clement[2] informs me he had acquainted you of the order of the

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] Jeremiah Clement.

Continental Congress of the 9th ulto.,[1] for shipping the Cargo of wheat. Last tuesday I laid said Order before the Committee of this place, who, after mature deliberation, were of opinion that a Gen'l Order of the said Congress of the 26th ulto. prohibiting the sailing of any vessel for any part of Gt. Britain, Ireland or the British West Indies,[2] intirely supercedes their Order of the 9th ulto. and so leaves it not with them to say whether the vessel with her Cargo shall sail or not. The Congress have publish'd another Order of the 6th [4th] currant,[3] which seems to repeal that of the 26th ulto. 'tho' terms of it seem rather ambiguous. I shall however make another application to the Committee here on the strength of it, and immediately acquaint you should they think it gives liberty for shipping the Wheat. In the Interim, I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

JAMES MCCOMB

[Endorsed, C. C.] at South Kingston, Rhode Island.

—— TO JOHN PARISH[4]

Boston, 1 May, 1777.

Sir

Messrs. Sam and Wm. Vernon having done us the favour of recommending us and the consignment of the Brigantine *Sally* and Cargo to your House, for which purpose we have order'd her to South Carolina, there to take a Cargo suitable for your Market, and make all possible dispatch for your City, and address himself to you for the Sales and returns of his Cargo, we have inclos'd a Mem'm of those articles which we chuse for returns. we have been advised to have our Invoice and Bills Loading made out for and in some Gentlman's Name at St. Croix, also to make the Brigantine a Danish Bottom, for the better security of our Property. however shall leave it with you to do as you judge most

[1] *Journals*, IV. 124.
[2] *Ib.*, 172.
[3] *Ib.*, 183.
[4] An American merchant in Hamburg.

expedient. we have agreed with Capt. Harris to go the Voyage without receiving Primage. therefore you will not make him any allowance for this Custom. we have agreed to pay the People one Months Wages at Hamburgh. therefore if they demand it you will please to advance them that sum.

Sailing Orders to Benjamin Harris

Boston, 1st May, 1777.

Sir,

You being appointed Master of our Brigantine *Salley*, and ready to sail, its our Orders you improve the first suitable Opportunity and proceed to South Carolina: we think it safest to run for Winyaw, where its most probabil you will here if the Coast off Ch's Town is clear of the Enemie. if it is not, its best to run your Vessil into Winway, and there sell your Cargo; as we think the Season is so farr advanced, no time is to be lost in loading your Vessil, with Rice and Tobacco, if to be had reasonable and of a good quality, imagining that article will yeild as good or better profit then Rice. therefore it will be best to take near one half of your Cargo in that article, if it can be had upon good Terms, but you will doubtless consult Mr. Nath'l Russel what will be the most advantageous. If you have not Cargo sufficient to load your Vessil with what Mr. Russel puts on board belonging to your Owners, take as much Freight as will fill your Vessil. after being loaded, make all possible dispatch to the City of Hamburgh, going North about, and judge it will be safest to go to the Northward of Shutland, and keep the Coast of Norway aboard. when you come up with the Island of Heylego Land, near the mouth of the Elbe, doubtless you will meet with Pilot boats that will take charge of your Vessil and carry you up to Hamburgh. when you get up the River as far as Stade, where a Guard Ship lays, you must go on board of her and make report of your Cargo and where from, therefore its best to report from Florida with the manifest of your Cargo, belonging to Ireland, they never

require a sight of any of your Papers, and therefore by no means necessary to carry them on board. this report is only a matter of form and custom. upon your Arrival at the City deliver your Cargo and Letters to Mr. John Parish to whom you are addressed, and follow his directions, at the same time urge him to give you all possible dispatch and to take every precaution to avoid danger and difficulty. as soon as you have got your Cargo on board proceed North about on your way Home avoiding if possible speaking with any Vessil dureing your whole Voyage, endeavouring to get into any Port of Safety in these States. we wish you Success and safe return.

You are to have by agreement the following Allowances vizt. Privilidge in the Brigantine 15 Cask of Rice, Commissions 5 per Ct. on Sale, 2½ on Returns, Wages £7.10 per Month, and one Dollar a Day allowed for your expences while in Hamburgh, no Vendue Masters Com'n to be allowed by the Owners.

[*Unsigned*]

Josiah Hewes to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, 26 May, 1777.

Yours of the 30 March I receved and have advertized your Ship for Sale; for some time but have not yet had any Application for her, worth Notice, our River has been long blocked up by Men of warr, that many fine Vessels lay idle here, our Merchants seem discouraged, and knowing that Vessels have been sold very cheap in New England, wont talk with me at any thing near the price you mention, 8.000 dollars. was shee here and our port released from the British Ships would readaly sell for the Sum above mentioned, but cant find any of them inclined to purchase her as she is. however, if you choose to fix a prise on her, and forward Inventory of what Stores Rigen Sailes etc. she has that is to go with her wil continue my applications for the seling her, and am with Sincerety yours

Josiah Hewes

Christopher Mardenbrough, Jr. to Christopher Champlin

St. Christopher, December 13th, 1777.

Dear Sir,

I YESTERDAY was happy in the sight of my Children, in good health. my Sister and Brother have mentiond to me your and Mrs. Champlin's great kindness to them and my Children, in their distress, that only is the time to know our friends. I can't find words to express the Obligation you have laid me under. this I will say that not only your private family but every friend that you wou'd wish to serve shall look on myself equally bound. you have acted the Samaritan; you have been a friend to my Children in a strange Land, you will ever command every thing in my power, can you point any Service that I cou'd render you here. Mrs. Mardenbrough and my Children join me in sincere regard to you, Mrs. Champlin and your Children. Sally writes Miss Peggy by this Opportunity. I am Yours truly,

Christopher Mardenbrough, Jr.

[Endorsed,] Mr. Christopher Champlin at Little Rest, Conecticut. To the Care of Mr. Jno. Baker Brimmer.

Received and forwarded by Your Humble Servant, John B. Brimmer.

Joseph Gardner[1] to Robert Stevens & Co.

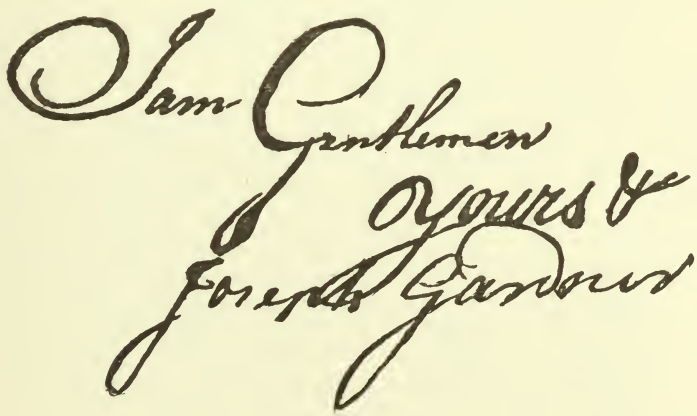
On board the *Greenwick*, 3rd March, 1778.

Gentlemen,

This is to acquaint you the third day after the Sloop left Bedford we came a cross a Ship of Fourteen Guns and Fifty men, we engag'd her and fought her three glasses but being cutt and much shatter'd to pieces was oblig'd to quit her. we had the misfortune to loose poor Moses Casey in the Fray and four more wounded. This is likewise to acquaint

[1] In May, 1776, he was interested in the privateer *Lady Washington*, with Joseph Cunningham and Ebenezer Dorr. Lincoln, *Naval Records of the American Revolution*, 1775–1788, 11.

you the eighteen of February we tooke a Schooner Transport from Hallifax bound to Newport loaded with Codfish and Coal but was blown off the coast and was bound to Antigua. we put a Prize Master on board and sent her to Martinico. this is likewise to acquaint you that the third of March we tooke another Schooner from Hallifax bound for Tobago, her cargo consists of sixty four hogsheads and eight tierces of Codfish eighty five barrells of Pickled Fish and seventeen hundred feet of Lumber and Staves. we likewise put a Prize Master on board of her and sent her to Martinico. This is likewise to acquaint you we are now cruising in the Latitude of Barbadoes and shall cruise back and forth about six weeks longer with the provisor we shoud not take any thing else till then and with the provisor we shoud take another Hallifaxman we shall go with her to Martinico. if we shoud take a Britainer we shall proceed direct for America. This is to acquaint you that I have ordered one half the proceeds to be laid out in Produce and the other half to be shipt home in Cash.



[Endorsed,] To Robert Stevens & Co. owners of the Sloop *Greenwich*, State of Rhode Island.

BON POUR L4000.tt Tournois

Philadelphie ce 18 Aout 1778

Monsieur

A Trente jours de vue, il vous plaira payer par cette quatriéme de Change, la premiére, ſeconde et troiſiéme ne l'étant, á Mons.r Jonathan Williams de Boston ou à ſon ordre, la Somme de Quatre Mille Livres Tournois valeur reçue comptant, que paſſerez ſuivant l'avis de

Vôtre trés humble Serviteur,

Bon pour L4000.tt Tooker fils

A Monsieur
Mons.r Le Ray du Chaumont
Au Domicile de Mons.r Pettier
Nect. Rue des Dechargeurs
a Paris

Thomas Forrester to ——

Newport, December 30th, [1778.]

Sir,

This is the fourth Letter and I have rec'd no answer from you. I cannot think they have come to hand, for if they had you would in Justice to me and your self as you are a Gentleman granted my request at this time. Sir you know that the times is very hard. Sir I beg you would send one 100 Dollars in Silver or an order upon sum Gentleman that you think will answer the purpose for I should have come before now if I had the sum only requested of you Sir for my Family is large and must suffer unavoidably unless you relieve me. I must conclude beging you will grant my request. your Sincere Friend,

Thos. Forrester

Joseph Anthony to Aaron Lopez[1]

Exeter Township, [Penn.,] 27th January, 1779.

My very Dear and Worthy Sir,

By a letter of the 21th from our mutual Friend Mr. Hewes, I have the pleasure to hear you are well, and safe arriv'd at Philadelphia; but that pleasure wo'd have been greatly increas'd if I had been so fortunate as to have met with you when I was down. my Anxiety for the distress'd Inhabitants of Newport is great; and whenever I hear of (any) person from that quarter, I am very desirous of seeing them, more especially Mr. Lopez, whom I know to be very intilegeble, and tho no doubt the account would be distressing yet one is fond of knowing the particulars. if you have Leasure I would thank you for a few lines, and if you could agree to take this rout home, and spend a day or two here, it would give us inexpresable pleasure. I hope you left Mrs. Lopez and famaly well, and that they are in secure quarters, in a land of peace and plenty; How is that

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

worthy old Gentleman Mr. Rivera, where does he live and how does he content himself. poor Newport, what is to be its fate at last; I fear Destruction. Its Inhabitants are already scatterd to the four corners of the Earth. my good Sir when I reflect on the happy days we have spent there, and with what ease and pleasure yourself and some others went through a multiplicity of business, I can hardly persuade myself that I am awake, but as I have something to do on my little farm, I endeavour to pass the time as cheerful as possible, and patiently wait for better times. I desire to thank god my famaly enjoy health and plenty, and have been seated in a part of the Country, where they have (as yet) liv'd free from Ravage or Insult. The farming business I am quite unacquainted with, and find it by no means profitable, yet I spend much less then I should in town. if I could see any prospect I should be glad to engage in some Business that I was better acquainted with, but it looks dark on every side that I know not what coarse to steer. Mrs. Anthony joins me in our best Respects to Mrs. Lopez, your self and famaly, and likewise to Mr. and Mrs. Rivera etc., and believe me to be Your Very Sincere Friend and Humble Servant,

Joseph Anthony

N. B. can you inform me how Capt. Wright is and where his famaly are.

[Endorsed,] To Mr. Aaron Lopez, To the Care of Mr. Josiah Hewes Merchant, in Philadelphia. Per favour Mr. Lee.

Aaron Lopez to Joseph Anthony

Philadelphia, February 3d, 1779.

My Dear and very worthy Friend,

How shall I express my gratitude to you for the satisfaction you have given me with the rec't of your friendly and obliging Favor of the 27th ulto. which this moment has been handed me by our mutual Friend Mr. Hewes, who telling me its Bearer returns again to Exeter tomorrow morn-

ing, I would not miss the opportunity of acknowledging its agreeable contents, and gratifying your wishes of hearing from me, from my family, and some thing from the distress'd Inhabitants of our once flourishing Iland;[1] But before I render you this intelligence, permit me to tell you, that I am extreamly happy to learn, that the Almighty has been pleased to guide you and good Family to so safe an Asylum, and that *there* he has blest you with health, peace, and plenty arround you, during these times of publick and almost universal Callamity; But what I esteem still a greater Blessing, endowed you with a gratefull heart, susceptible of all those divine bounties, which I pray may be continued you with all the additional felicities this sublunary World is capable of affording. For my part I have the pleasure to acquaint my good Friend, that I consider myself under still greater obligations to Heaven; having hitherto enjoy'd every one of those inestimable Blessings you are pleased to tell me of, without the least Merit or Title to them; am therefore to acknowledge myself infinitely more thankfull for so mercifull Dispensations.

Since we left our Island my principal object was to look out for a Spot, where I could place my Family, secured from sudden Allarms and the Cruel Ravages of an enraged Enemy; Such a one I have hitherto found in the small inland Township of Leicester in the Massachusetts Bay, *where* I pitch'd my Tent, erecting a proportionable one to the extent of my numerous Family on the Sumit of an high healthy Hill, where we have experienc'd the civilities and hospitality of a kind Neighbourhood; and moved in the same Sphere of Business I have been used to follow, which, altho much more contracted, it has fully answer'd my wishes, and you know my Friend, when that is the case, it never fails of constituting real happiness: Add to this the satisfaction of having for

[1] In a letter from Governor Greene to the Assembly of Connecticut, January 21, 1779, it was stated that two thousand persons had been driven from their homes, and were dependent on public or private charity. The neighboring states contributed to their relief, and the Continental Congress reduced the amount of taxes required from the state. *Journals*, XIII. 269.

a next door neighbour your truly well wishing Friend, my Father in Law Mr. Rivera, who with his Family I left in good health, spending in peace the fruits of his last summer's Labour on a small Farm. the Old Gentleman improves with much the same *Farming Faculties*, you tell me you cultivate yours; [1] and I can farther inform you that while his hands have been imploy'd in that usefull Art, his agitated Mind has uniformly accompanied yours to poor Newport; where I do still hope we shall soon have the pleasure of meeting each other again and re-enjoy those injurd habitations, we have so long been deprived of, with all satisfaction.

By this Weeks Post Mrs. Lopez has informd me that the Widow Lee, who had the Liberty of going down from Providence in a Flag to Newport, after staying there some days, she had the indulgency of returning to Providence, and being engaged to nurse my Daughter Mrs. Mendez (who I have the consolation to tell you leaves [lives] also near me and next door to our good Neighbour Capt. Jno. Lyon formerly of Newport). This Mrs. Lee coming directly on her return into our Family inform'd Mrs. Lopez, that the poor Inhabitants of that Town, have been very much distress'd this Winter for the want of fewell and provisions, those Individuals of my Society in particular, who she said had not tasted any meat, but once in two months: Fish there was none at this Season of the Year, and they were reduced to the alternative of leaving upon Chocolate and Coffe. These and many other Callamities and Insults the wretched

[1] Among those Jews who came from Newport to Leicester in 1777 were Abraham Mendez, Jacob Rod Rivera, and the Lopez family. Rivera purchased of Nathan White thirty-one acres opposite the meeting-house. Lopez bought of Henry Bass and Joseph Allen a plot of land afterwards occupied by the Leicester Academy. All, but Lopez, returned to Newport after the peace of 1783. Aaron Lopez was drowned in Smithfield May 20, 1782, when driving with his family to Providence. The following tribute appeared in the newspaper of the time: "He was a merchant of eminence, of polite and amiable manners. Hospitality and benevolence were his true characteristics, an ornament and a valuable pillar in the Jewish society of which he was a member. His knowledge in commerce was unbounded; and his integrity irreproachable. Thus he lived, and thus he died; much regretted, esteemed, and loved by all." Washburn, *Historical Sketches of the Town of Leicester*, 121–124.

Inhabitants experience, ought to excite our thanks to that Great Being, who gave us resolution to exchange at so early a period that melancholy Spot for that we now are enjoying. Your Dweling house I understand has sufer'd much. Your Neighbour Augustus Johnson [1] was found dead at his house. My Neighbour Gideon Sesson's Wife is crazy, and what I lament most, is, that the vertue of several of our Reputable Ladys has been attacked and sullied by our destructive Enemys, — so much for poor Newport. Capt. Benj. Wright continues at Jamaica. his zeallous wishes to put me in possession of some part of the large property I have had lock'd up in his hands since the commencement of this war, led him to address me with three Vessels loaded on my sole and proper account, all which have been taken by our American Cruizers; the first falling in honest hands was delivered up to me by a reference agreed to by the parties. The other two were libelled and contested, one of them was adjudged at Providence to be restored to me: the opposite party appealed to Congress. The third and most valuable was (contrary to the opinion and expectation of every spectator) condemn'd at a Connecticut Court of Admiralty. I appeald to Congress, which has brought me here in full hopes of obtaining redress.[2] Mrs. Wright was left porly at Newport, when Nurse Lee came away, which prevented Mrs. Wright coming off in the same Flagg, as she intended, but will do it soon, as she recovers.

I have oferd the poor distress'd Woman all the assistance in my power to grant her, as I esteeme her an object of real merit.

Now my Dear Friend I have only to add my sincere thanks for your kind invitation to spend a day or two with you at your habitation. I shall inform myself (not being acquainted where Exeter lays) and if I can anyways make it convenient to call on you, may expect to see me; meantime permit me to announce you and Mrs. Anthony every good

[1] Augustus Johnson had been the royal Attorney General of the colony and had been burned in effigy in 1765. See Mason, *Annals of Trinity Church*, 106 *n.*

[2] *Journals*, XIII. 162.

wish pure esteem can suggest being very truly, Dear Sir, Your affectionate Friend and humble Servant.

[*Unsigned.*]

Richard Matthewson to Christopher Champlin

East Greenwich, February 6th, 1779.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform you of the Sloop *Speedwell's* being condemn'd by the Carpenters as unfit for the sea. Mr. Nightingale says he was never so much deceived before, when we purchased the vessel she lay in the mud with her hold full of ice. What part of her we could see was exceeding good, and Mr. Nightingale being acquainted with her before supposed there to be no Danger in purchasing her; and never found out that her Timber was rotten till she was hove out to grave.

He however thinks he can retail her out for as much as she cost us, as she has 2 good Cables and her other rigging very good. Colonel Nightingale, John Brown and myself have purchased a snow of about 160 Tons, well built, an excellent sailer, and if you choose you may have a part in her on good terms, to proceed on the same voyage. You will inform me what you will do within a day or two; otherwise I shall very likely dispose of her. I am Sir your very Humble Servant,

Richard Matthewson

N. B. The Snow as she now is Cost 2500£.

Meeting of Court of Appeals[1]

If Mr. Paca, Mr. Ellery and Mr. Henry can attend a Court of Appeals this Even at seven oclock, parties are desirous of being heard, and the Court will meet accordingly. But it

[1] Of the Continental Congress, for hearing prize causes. It probably relates to the petition of Aaron Lopez.

being five oclock before an application was made, Mr. Drayton being previously occupied will not be able to attend.

W. H. Drayton

April 9, 1779.

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez [1]

Providence, 3d May, 1779.

Dear and Respected Sir,

With inexpressible pleasure I rec'd your most acceptable and pleasing favours of the 29th March and 12th Ulto. announcing the pleasing intilligence of your happy success in the recovery of your captured property from the hands of those voracious pirates, on which joyfull event, permit me most sincerly to felicitate you, and to add my hearty wishes, that you may ever be enabled to render futile the attempts of all such designing Villains. hope before this reaches Leicester, my Dearest Aunt may be render'd happy, and that joy may be diffused in the hearts of all our extensive familys, by your safe Arrivall to them in health.

My having engaged with Mr. Welcome Arnold to accompany him on a Speculating Journey to the Eastward, in order to improve some Moneys I have in my hands for my hon'd Uncle Jacob, prevents me the pleasure of paying you my Respects personally, and of participating in that joy which I proposed to myself in being among the first to bid you Welcome to the arms of your longing family. on my return I intend myself the happiness of kissing your hands, and of enjoying with you and our dear fam'lys the approaching Festivalls. interim beg leave most respectfully to tender you and my Dear Aunt my most Cordiall Congratulations on your return and success.

Your favor per Capt. James Duncan with the draught you was pleased to advise having drawn on me in his favor, has not yet come to hand, nor have I been able to obtain any tidings of him, whenever he appears you may rely Sir, due

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

attention and honor shall be observ'd in its punctuall discharge.

having adjusted and ballanc'd our Accounts to the 16th ulto. with the assistance of Mr. Mendes and Cousin Jos., have not since been enab'ld to make any remitances to Mr. Smith of Boston conformable to your orders, not being yet more in Cash, than to answer Capt. Duncan's Draught, and having advanc'd to Mr. Mendes while here £236.12. which sum be pleased to receive of him and note to our Credit in new Acct. Should you have occasion still to continue those orders, will with pleasure execute them as soon as in Cash, for which purpose request you'll please to advise me per first oppertunity for my goverment.

hope on examination our Acct. and Transactions for the year past may merit your approbation.

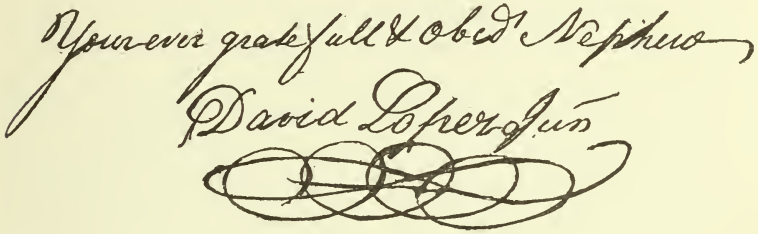
I have according to your orders, apply'd to Mr. Reynolds [1] respecting the Deerskin Breeches etc. he says that his orders some time past were to make no further purchases on account of the Continent. but as they are now in great want and no supplys on hand, he expects daily to have those orders revoked, and then its probable he may have occasion, and will emediately advise me. good Indigo is not to be had here at present. Common is sold from 7 to 9 Dollars, and if none arrives soon I imagine a few Casks may answer very well. Goods of almost every kind are continually advancing, particularly those calculated for the summer. West India goods at present are rather at a stand, but wines in great demand and very high. when I [was] at Leicester, I purchaced a quarter cask of Cousin Joseph, which I have now engaged at 20 Dollars per Gallon, and make no doubt could obtain the same price for more of that kind. Shall esteem it a singular favor if you'll be pleased to request him to endeavor to forward it as soon as posible and to let the quality be as good as any there is on hand, as it is for the Gen'lls Table.[2] Mr. Mendes promised to forward some

[1] John Reynolds, "cloathier agent" for Rhode Island. See *Journals*, XII. 1006.

[2] Sullivan.

Goods from Tafts Tavern for old Mr. Trevett which with the Wine and a bb. of Cosher Beef he engaged to send us may probably make a load sufficient to induce a Teamster to come down.

Mr. Jacobs and Capt. Sisson requests their Compliments of Congratulation may be made acceptable, which with a reiteration of my respectfull Salutations to your goodself my Dear Aunt and family concludes me with the greatest defference and esteem, Dear Sir,



Since closing the above have been handed a letter from Capt. Hathaway,[1] with the disagreeable advise of his being unfortunately captured and carried into Antigua, on his passage home 11 days out. as I conceive it needless to add to the loss by the expence of postage, and having no room in this, have inserted a Coppy of it in a letter I am just closing to my hon'd Uncle Jacob, for your perusall. by first direct opp'ty shall forward the orriginall.

Should you deliberate on forwarding any articles of bulk, this way, beg you'll be pleased to remember the privilidge I have of receiving goods to my private address.

[Endorsed, To Mr. A. L.,] Merchant, Leicester. To the Care of Jon'a Hastings Esq., Boston.

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[1] Probably Nathaniel Hathaway, who in 1781 commanded the letter of marque *Hound*.

Samuel Fayerweather to Aaron Lopez

Potosi, South Kingston, May 10th, 1779.

My dear Sir,

By this opportunity Captain Bardwine let me ask you how you do, and how your very worthy Lady does, as well as all your good Family. And be pleased to let me know, how good Mr. Rivery my kind Friend, his Lady and whole family do, now in this dismal pestilential Warr: that has so cruelly seperated us at an awful Distance one from another.

I rejoyce that in Tribulation you have had Success as to securing and recovering your vessel and that the Congress are all your staunch Friends. What is become of David your Brother? if alive present my Regards to him.

Be pleased to let me know whether you have any Pattern, for Breeches, by sending me one of them, *I mean Breeches Patterns*. And send me also enough of the inclos'd for a Jackquett if you have any by you. And I will pay you either Silver Money or Paper which you please.

Accept my Profession of Regard and Friendship both to you and Lady. Accept much Love I say in a little: and favour me with a line of your elegant writing. And I am with great truth Sir your sincere hearty Friend and obedient humble Servant,

Samuel Fayerweather

Moses Michael Hays to Aaron Lopez [1]

South Kingstown, 8th June, 1779.

Dear Sir,

Permit me to offer my respects to your self and Family, and enquire their wellfare. May their days be maney, with Felicity and the Smiles of Heaven! I presume I am rightly informed respecting Myn Heer, that he is now soliciting Congress for a rehearing, endeavoring to prevail on the

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society. Many references to Hays may be found in the *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society.*

Authority in Conecticut, to prevent the decree, and using every measure, to procrastinate the day of Payment. The Convulsions of the day, make attention very serious. your Penetration wants no aid yet, I would as a Friend, recommend a very watchfull eye. The State where Myn Heer resides reigns by Art and disimulation, posibly beyond your conception;

If you have Bohea Tea, and the Price is not too extravagant, shall take it a favor to have 2 or 3 li. per the Bearer Mr. Haszard. Shall pay you its amount, when I have the pleasure of taking you by the hand again, which I hope will be this Summer; Assure your good Mrs. Lopez of my cordial wishes for her health and a happy moment. Mrs. Hays is yet up, joins in affectionate regards, to all under your Roof, with those under Wings of my good Friend Mr. Revire and am Truly Your Affect. hb. Servant,

M. M. Hays

Bermond to Aaron Lopez [1]

Cape françois, the 20th June, 1779.

Sir,

On my Journey thro Salem in the month of September last I had the pleasure of seeing you at the Tavern of the Rising Sun [2] where I had the advantage of making you a tender of my best Services in the name of my House here (under the title of Brassier and Bermond) which I now reiterate to you and expect youll give us the prefferance of the Consignments of your Vessels that you may have occasion to send here and you may depend that we shall not detain them here more than 12 or 15 days at furthest; And if it shoud happen that we cannot sell the Cargoes to advantage immediately on their arrival we shall keep them in our

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] Formerly known as the King's Arms Tavern, but became the Rising Sun at the outbreak of the Revolution. It was at the head of Central Street, and was kept by William Goodhue. About 1800 it was torn down by William Gray to make room for his brick house.

Christopher Champlin

Lisbon 16th. March, 1778.

Sir

THE term of the Partnership which from the beginning of the year 1771, existed under the firm of *Parr, Bulkeley*, and *Company*, (and consisted of *Thomas Parr, John Bulkeley*, and *William Tonkin)* being expired, in conformity to the tenour of its first establishment, and the Partnership accordingly dissolved, occasions us to use the freedom to confirm the same to you, and having separately acquainted you of the first subscribed having retired from business, and that the second underwritten succeeds in the house, we now take the liberty to mention that during our association proportionate degree of merit is due to our other Partner *Mr. William Tonkin*, and the House and their constituents adequately benefited by his Efforts and Assiduities. With these dispositions and in every respect an unexceptionable character, he retires from the house to pursue business separately, wherein we wish him success. He was in England when the partnership expired and being now returned enables us to mention the manner in which he proposes to follow business, and for your government hereunder is his firm. We are most respectfully,

Sir

Your most obedient servants,

Thomas Parr

John Bulkeley

The firm of your most obedient servant William Tonkin.

William Tonkin

Stores untill some favourable opportunity shou'd offer, and with pleasure shall advance you the Returns, besides we shall charge you no more than what we have done to several Houses of your place Boston and Salem, which is only 7½ per % on the Sales and Returns, but on provisor that the Vessels be directly consign'd to our House and that it be mention'd in the Captain's written orders to deliver the Cargoes immediately on their arrival into our hands.

We shall be extremely glad that the above mention'd may be agreable to you, and as we have not the pleasure of being acquainted or known by you, you may get some Informations from our friends Messrs. Clark and Nightingale concerning our House. And in expectation of your speedy Commands, we remain, with great Esteem, Your most obedient hl Servant,

BERMOND

P. S. The Bills of Exchange drawn by Mr. Holker fils or Mr. Gérard our Ambassadour on Paris at 2 months sight are generally negotiated here at a Par but must be endors'd by some responsable House here. Notwithstanding we were oblig'd to give this day 5 per % Discount, owing to no Vessels offering at present for old France.

Prices Current of the following articles.

Dry Fish	85 to 90 Livres per %.
Herrings	72 to 75 Livres per Barril.
Mackarel	85 to 90 Livres per Ditto.
Hogs feet	35 to 40 Sols per *li.*
Rice	45 to 48 Livres per %.
Tobacco	27 to 30 do. do.
Fish Oil	7^{li} 10^{s} to 8^{li} per Gallon.
Boards	225 Livres per thousand.
Sugar Hogshd. Staves	$350^{li.}$ *per* ∞/00.
Molasses Hogd. Ditto	$90^{li.}$ per ∞/00.
Hoops	$250^{li.}$ per ∞/00
Molasses	25 to 26 Sols per Velt each Velt containing 2 Gallons.
Muscovado Sugar	20 to 24 Livres per %.
Coffee	7*s.* to 7½ Sols per *li.*
Coco	7½ Sols per *li.*
Taffia	$81^{li.}$ per Cask.
Cordage	$150^{li.}$ per %.

Oliver Gardner to Christopher Champlin

Sir, Warwick, July 11, 1779.

According to your request I send you the merandom of my Cargo as neair as I could recolect when I was run on shour on the Island of St. thomases five thousands gallons of Rum and seven thousands weight of shugar. I entered a regular Protest at St. Croix and tuck a Copy of the same but on my Passage had my Chest brook open and lost it. if you wold be at the Expence of entering another it shall be dun. I left my bisiness with Mr. Nicholas Croger [1] at St. Croix and likewise the govener he told me he should lay in a Clame for my vessel and Cargo and had sent up to St. Christophers in order for triall the Costom as I was informed theair by Croger if the vesel is recovered I am to have two thirds and goverment the other third. I was run on shour about twelve clock at night by two priverteers belonging to totalor [Tortola] the one name was John Strickling and the other John Graham [2] that is the captain names of the proverteers allso I made my escape from them. when I came away when theay hade me under examination, the[y] offered me if I wold sine a Instrement of theare drawing in order to have my vessel condemed theay wold gave me all my ventur that I had on board when run on shour. Sir your most humbel Servent,

Oliver Gardner

[Memo.] In a letter Gardner wrote me which I returnd, he mentions 2 hhds. Rum on board for me. [Christopher Champlin.]

[Endorsed,] Mr. Christopher Champlain att Littel Rest.

David Lopez, Junior, to Aaron Lopez

Dear Sir, Providence, July 13th, 1779.

I have now the pleasure of advising you my Arrivall here last evening from Leicester were I left all the famlys in health Sunday noon.

[1] Nephew of Henry Cruger.

[2] One of this name, of Baltimore or Virginia, was interested in a Maryland letter of marque, in 1780, the *Eagle*.

Nothing of moment I find has occur'd since my absence, bussiness still continues at a stand, and the prospect of appriciating the Currency I conceive to appear rather doubtfull. West India Goods have fallen very rapidly of late, tho' other articles with country produce keep up, and are withheld by those who have them on hand, from an oppinion that the mode adopted for reducing the prices cannot be attended with that salutary effect which was proposed by the fraimers, but as our policy and marketts are intirely governed by those of Boston, you can be better able to judge of the situation of affairs there, than from what information I can give from this quarter.

I have conformable to your orders, made enquiry respecting Velvetts and Indigo. Messrs. Clark and Nightingale are the only persons who have any Velvetts on hand. I have call'd at their Store severall times and found it shut. the Bearer intending to sett out emediately does not leave me time to apply again before his departure. must therefore advise the result of my enquiry by the next conveyance which you may rely Sir, I shall particularly attend to. Indigo is not to be had here by the Quantity, what little is retailed goes at £5.10 and £6 per lb. at foot have inserted the Sums delivered you in Cash when here last as you was pleased to request, which being the needfull that at present occurs, have only to add my most respectfull Salutations, and to subscribe with the greatest defference and esteem, Dear Sir, Your Obedient Nephew and Servant,

David Lopez, Jun'r

Cash del'd at Providence 16th June.

2900 Dollars
2385 Ditto del'd same evening

5285 Dollars
3

£1585.10

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Amsterdam, 25 July, 1779.

Sir,

WE received with a great pleasure your Favour of 22th May by Captain Haydon with inclosed bill of £ st 30 on George Hayley, Esquire, in London which we forwarded directly for acceptance, but as we did not receive yet the tidings of its being accepted before Captain Magee got all his cargo we were at a Loss how to proceed imagining it might be but disagreable to you to have the Goods shiped in case the bill should not be paid. wherefore as we hope to have in short another opportunity we imagine as safe as this we determined to wait for it. but foreseing the Bohea Tea should rise in price we procured yet at 19 sh. st.[1] the Chest you wanted and will procure one Canester of soachong if the money left will suffer it addressing the whole to Tho. Russel Esquire in Boston. Bohea Tea is now already at 20½ sh. st. we were further happy to see that it meight come in your way to consign us a Vessel in more peaceable Time in which case as in maney others you may depend on our greatest Care for your interest this being still enlivened by the friendship we bore from the beginning towards the American Case which is so like to ours.

May but a general peace take place in short and leave more Room for an open and flourishent trade we are meanwhile very respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servants,

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON

SETH READ TO AARON LOPEZ

Uxbridge, August 17, 1779.

Dear Sir,

THIS day have seen Moses Jones and Lynde the Persons for which I became Surety to you for sundry Goods for which you call'd upon me to make up the depreciation of

[1] Exchange on London was quoted at so many "schellings" to the pound sterling.

the Money. I like an honest Man (whether it is so or not) gave you £50 per cent. on all that was not paid, at the same time expecting these Gentlemen to make me whole; but they utterly refuse doing one Farthing.

You calling for depreciation, and they on the other hand refusing one farthing, you may easily draw the Consequence. To deal at this rate am determin'd not. I am your humble Servant,

SETH READ

AARON LOPEZ TO DAVID LOPEZ, JR.

Lecester, August 25, 1779.

ALTHO much incomoded with a Rheumatick pain in my heep [hip] and much huried with atending sundry large purchasers who in their return from Boston have visited my Store and taken off considerable parcells of Goods, I would not ommit embracing this opportunity to tell you that I have read the Contents of your two last agreable Letters of the 3d and 10 Inst. and conformable to what you write in your first respecting the Errors in Invoice No. 23 I have t[h]ought best to make out a new one and destroy that I sent you from Boston, therefore you'll find here enclos'd a right Invoice and to avoid making out a ceperate one for the Tobacco etc. have inserted it under same head which desire you'll notice that our Entrys may agree. The Sale you made of the other 4 half pipes wine canot but merit my approbation and doubt not but you'll be seasonable in Cash for amount of same as I esteem those men good. I made sale here to the same purchaser of 8 pipes more at same price, and wish him well with them. The French Doct. accounted with me at Boston for the Error you discover'd in one of his half pipes. Joseph return'd here safe with Nurse and delivered in good order the 2 ps. figured Velvet you purchased for me Cost of which being £484 stands enterd to the credit of Lopez and Jacobs account with my thanks for your attention to this purchase; the said Account is also credited with £2100 being for cash you transmited

also by Joseph. As the manufactory of money keeps on briskly at Philadelphia I expect you'll soon find a brisk Demand for our Goods which when sold I cannot flatter myself with the hopes of replacing without a Loss. I trust therefore you'll guard as much as possible against this prevailing evil and see in particular that all those goods comprehended in Invoice No. 20 being part of many old Invoices are at this present time from 4 to 6 times (nominaly) higher than they were then charged. You'll probably receive my next from Hartford. Now I am not able to add more than to repeat that I continue, Your affectionate Uncle.

Your Aunt desires Love to you. Your Sister Sally continues poorly tho something better. What news from Philad.?

David Lopez, Jr., to Aaron Lopez

Providence, 30th August, 1779.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge with much pleasure, receipt of your most esteemed favor of the 25th current, the contents of which have with a due attention noticed. The inclosed Correct Invoice No. 23. is carefully compared and finding it right have conformably regulated my Entrys therewith.

Observe the two pieces figured Velvetts had reached your hands safe, in the purchace of which together with the sales of the last four pipes Wine, I am fortunate to merit your approbation, a circumstance that cannot but prove extremely flattering and pleasing to me. am happy to find that the price I obtain'd of Captain Wiley for those sold him here, had establish'd so good a precedent for the 8 more which you furnish'd him at Leicester as I remark you had not before held them so high. That article is now retailing her at 78/ per Gall'n.

I note likewise with a particular sattisfaction, that notwithstanding the introduction again, of that vexatious plan

for regulating the prices of Goods, you had recently found an advantageous vent for a considerable Quantity of Goods to some returning purchacers, who had prefer'd your store to the many they left at Boston, an incident which I do not think indicates a present strict adherence to, or long continuance of, that perplexing evil. I shall you may depend Sir, pay due Obedience to your Order respecting the prices of the Goods included in Invoice No. 20, tho I have not omited heretofore to advance them in a graduall pace with the depreciation, and as high as our Market would admit. In mine of the 3d. Inst. I requested to be advised wither the ballance due me from Mr. Sam'l Page [1] of Salem had been accounted for, to you, as I desired, to which I have not as yet received any reply. suppose it has through hurry, escaped your notice. shall now esteem it a favor to be inform'd of that matter for my government.

Mr. Ward has this moment handed me the inclosed from Capt. Wright which has just come to hand from Warwick, where a Flagg arrived last evening from Rhd. Island. am much surpris'd at his not having rec'd the Letter which I forwarded some time past in your behalf, as Gov. Bowen assur'd me he deliver'd it to the Capt. of the Cartell with his own hands. by what I can learn from Mr. Ward, we shall soon have frequent oppertunitys of conveyances to Newport, a Cartell being in agitation to be establish'd between the 2 Generalls. Blake being at my elbow impatient to return, leaves me only time to return a tender of my most respectfull Salutations and Love to my Dear Aunt, and to assure you that I continue with the utmost respect and esteem, Dear Sir, Your most Obedient Nephew and humble Servant,

DAVID LOPEZ, JUN'R

[1] Captain of a foot company in 1781, and a member of the House of Representatives, 1783–1785.

Joseph Fay[1] to Aaron Lopez

Bennington, 8th September, 1779.

Sir,

The Ballance of my last Bill, the Bearer (my brother) will discharge; after which you will please to furnish him with such articles as he may want to purchase of you particularly one more P's of Irish Linnin such as I purchased of you last month.

I am in want of a considerable Quantity of Powder, Lead, and flints, for the use of the Militia of this State. should you be able to supply me with those articles (which must be of the best kind of English powder for Hunters) you will please to write me by the bearer, also upon what conditions, and wheather United States Loan office Certificates will be rec'd in payment.

I shall soon want to supply myself with a considerable Quantity or assortment of winter goods, and if I can be supplied by you at as reasonable a rate as at Boston (Portage excepted) shall be willing to open a Trade with you. You will please to signify to me wheather Flower will be rec'd in payment or wheather Cash will be more agreeable. I am, Sir, Your Humble Servant,

Joseph Fay

David Lopez, Jr., to Aaron Lopez

Leicester, 16th September, 1779.

Dear Sir,

I have now the pleasure of addressing you my Respects, from this, where I arriv'd again this day, and have the happiness to find my Dear Aunt and all the branches of our dear Connections in health. I pray the same blessing may be extended to my ever honored Uncle, that he may enjoy the approaching festivities, with a tranquill sattisfaction, and be wrote and seal'd in the Book of long Life and Felicity.

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[1] Secretary to the Council of Vermont. *Records of Governor and Council, Vermont*, I. 122.

Emediately on my return an oppertunity presented to the Island, which I did not fail to improve, in repeating duplicate of what I before wrote to Capt. Wright in your behalf, to which I also added a verball and explicit message by Mr. Townsend, who went down at same time, and promised to be the bearer. The return of that Cartell was so sudden as not to afford time for a reply. another Flag is daily expected from that quarter, and should any letter from Capt. Wright come to hand, I have directed it to be emediately forwarded here, with a duplicate to Hartford, that you might be seasonably apprised of its contents for your goverment. Bills of Exchange I found to be exceeding scarce and in great demand at Providence. I have however fortunately obtain'd a sett for three Hundred Dollars at 12 for one, and have a further prospect of another for 800 Dollars more in about 10 days at same advance. I have likewise left directions with Mr. Jacobs to procure as many as posible during my absence, and hope we may be able to accomplish a good proportion towards your occasions.

The opperation of the State Bill renders Buisseness still extremely dull and perplexing, tho' with us it has the appearance of a very short duration, our marketts being most badly provided, and scarce any attention paid to the regulations by those who expose their articles to sale. at Boston, its dictates seem to be but little better regarded. on application for the Velvetts which I advised you were offer'd me at £6 per yard, I was told that they were sent to that markett and readily sold for £9. dry goods insted of descending 20 per Ct. keep daily rissing, and have become very scarce. On my arrivall I apply'd to Jno. Reynolds with the Samples of the Broad Cloths you was pleased to deliver me when here last. he says that he has just made a purchase of a quantity of equall quality at the Eastward, at £10, and offers to take those 5 ps. at £12 provided Loan Certificates will be taken in payment. I wait your reply and orders respecting them.

I did not omit attending to your Commission respecting Colo. Reed. on my way down he promised the money

should be ready against my return, but when I now call'd at his house was told he was gone to Boston and had not left the Necessary to discharge your Bill. I shall again wait on him when I leave this and endeavor if posible to obtain it.

I am with perfect Sentiments of the utmost Respects and Esteem, Dear Sir, Your most Obedient Nephew and humble Servant,

DAVID LOPEZ, JUN'R.

[Endorsed,] To Mr. Aaron Lopez, Merchant, Hartford.

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir, Amsterdam, 27 Sept., 1779.

CRAVING reference to the annex'd Copy of our last respects of 25 July and your remittance of £ St. 30 your account was creditted for it as follow at Fs. 36½ per £ St. F. Bk money 326.5 agio 4½ per ct. F. 13.17 = 340.2 Currency whereof please to pass writing in comformity but as there will not be sufficient for a cannester Souchon Tea we only shall ship the chest bohea by the first opportunity, Captain Greely being not able to take anything.

We have no particular news on this side of the water but sincerely congratulate you on the good Luck of the American arms got this summer. Remaining with due Regard, Sir, Your most humble Servants,

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE & SON

Forwarded from St. Eustatia, by Y. M. H. S. HY. GODET.

EZEKIEL HALL[1] AND SAMUEL COOKE TO AARON LOPEZ

Sir, Watertown, 10 October, 1779.

YOUR favour of 8th have receivd covering an Invoice of Goods purchas'd of you which we find far exceeding the

[1] An inn holder in Watertown, 1770.

Quantity talk'd of, but as the one half is to be paid for in Rum think the Advantage will be mutuale. have this morning also receivd the 2 Hhds. of Goods and one Piece Baize to outward appearance in good order by Mr. Wicker. have fill'd 8 Bbs. Rum for Mr. Wicker to take for you but upon applying to our Committee for a Certificate find that its not in their Power to give a proper Certificate to secure your team in their way to Leicester they say it must come from your Committee. in this disagreable Situation tho't it prudent to advise Mr. Wicker back to your Town for a proper Certificate which hope will meet with your Approbation.

Mrs. Hall and daughter had an agreable Return on Thursday last. Mrs. Hall and Miss Betsey and Mr. Cooke joins me in presenting our Respects to you Mrs. Lopez and Ladies. being very assuredly Your Most Humble Servants,

Ezek'l Hall and Sam'l Cooke

David Lopez Jr. to Aaron Lopez[1]

Providence, 12th October, 1779.

Dear Sir,

Cousin Jos. handed me your much esteem'd favor of the 10th Current to the contents of which have duly attended, and note your orders respecting the goods we have on hand. the Sundrys you are pleased to order by Cousin Josy, are deliver'd him, the others shall be punctual'y conformed to your pleasure, altho' must beg leave to observe that the prevailing sentiment in this quarter, respecting the prospect before us, does not appear to coincide exactly with yours, particularly in regard to the disposall of Goods; for notwithstanding the Certainty of Mons. De Estaing's Arrivall at the Southward, and the Success that has attended him in that quarter, the price of goods has not decended in the least, nor has the speculators, or holders of them, in any degree slack'n'd their avidity in collecting and enhancing

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

their value. not a Merchant or Shopkeeper here will willingly part with any article by wholesale, and when they do which is rare, nothing is abated from the retail price, the truth of which Josy can fully evince from his own observations, and fruitless Essays to procure a few articles that were wanting. to him therefore I beg leave to refer you for further particulars, and the reasons urged for this rule of Conduct.

Bills on France are equally scarce and in demand. Mr. Clark has not as yet been able to purchace any, but promises to continue his best endeavors. I have now deliver'd Cousin Joseph 5 small setts amounting 192 Dollars, which I wrested by the dint of persuation from a Farmer who was passing through here on his way to Boston, to ship them; he had before refused 12½ that was offer'd him by Clark and Nightingale, therefore was constrain'd to allow him 13 for one. I am inform'd the same price has since been given by those Gentlemen.

Messrs. Tillinghast and Holroyd have punctually discharged the order drawn on them by Capt. Wiley, which sum together with what we have collected in the Shop being about Ten Thousand Dollars, have thought best to hold till your further orders, for the purchace of what Exchange may be obtain'd by Mr. Clark and self.

Since my return, two Flaggs have arrived from the Island without any tidings from Capt. Wright, and within this day or two has appeared here, one of those *Ganabim*,[1] from Connecticut. his Business is to collect the evidences of all the Newport refugees, respecting the Character of Capt. Wright and Maudsly.[2] Mr. Bowler informs me he was summon'd to give his deposition, that the questions that were demanded from him, were whether Capt. Maudsley did not subscribe to the Association, and was not accounted

[1] Gammadims. Ezek. xxvii. ii.

[2] John Maudsley, who was charged with being a "rebel" until the occupation of Rhode Island by the British, when he asserted his loyalty. He is said to have sworn allegiance to the new government after the peace, and certainly, in 1783, petitioned the British government for land in Nova Scotia. Sabine, *American Loyalists*, II. 52.

a friend to Goverment, and whether Mrs. Wright had been continually on the Island since the first arrivall of the British Troops, to both which questions he answer'd in the affirmative. he says he was present and heard severall others interogated to the same questions. I cannot devise what handle they mean to make of Capt. Maudsley in that affair, but fear those Villians will occasion you much trouble before they can be brought to render you due Justice, which at length I cannot but flatter myself they will be compell'd to do, altho their Rascally, peaked, Bearded Judges may by their Chicane, procrastinate the period. should I discover any further particulars of their Intentions you may rely on being seasonably apprised. I am with the greatest respect and esteem, Hon'd Sir, Your Obedient Nephew and Servant,

David Lopez, Jun.

14th October.

Accounts from below say the Enemy are certainly embarking, that their heavy Cannon are on the wharfs and every thing in the outmost readiness for evacuating the Town. should they quit it I shall not fail conveying you the earliest Intiligence, as it will prove an excelent oppert'y of conversing with Capt. Wright who I do not think will emediately follow them. Cousin Joe will be able to furnish you the particulars of this account.

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez [1]

Providence 21st October 1779.

Dear Sir,

Your most estemm'd favor of the 19th is just handed me by the Teamster, and in conformity to its contents have now del'd him the three Hhds. Dry Goods which hope may reach you safe and meet an advantageous sale. Inclosed is a minute of what has been taken out of each Cask since they were first packed for your Goverment. Mrs. Williams left

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

me 32½ li Tallow to be forwarded to you at 12/ which have paid her and debited your Account with Lopez & Co. it will be delivered by the Bearer, who being importunate to be dispatched prevents my enlarging. We have this moment an express from below advising the Enemy's being all embarked, the wind being now favourable. the Troops here are all order'd to embark in Boats and follow the Gen'l who has gone down post haste with his retinue. They burnt the light house last night and have blown up severall other of their works near the Town this morning.[1] many of the Inhabitants have also imbarked among whom is Colo. Wanton[2] and fam'ly. This we have from a person that was taken off the Island last Night by Colo. Barton.[3] every appearance now indicates a speedy Evacuation, in which hope we may not by some unforseen event be disapointed.

I am with respectfull Salutations to your hon'd self my Dear Aunt and famly, Dear Sir, Your Respectfull Nephew and Servant,

DAVID LOPEZ, JUN.

DAVID LOPEZ, JR. TO AARON LOPEZ[4]

Hon'd Sir, Providence, 24th October, 1779.

I HAD the pleasure of paying you my respects under the 21st Current by Mr. Hathaway with whome I forwarded the three Casks Dry Goods you was pleased to order. hope they are safe with you e'r this, and that you may find a vent

[1] "Our best Accounts from Rhode Island are, that the Enemy had nearly compleated the embarkation of their Cannon, Baggage and Stores, and were employed in plundering the Inhabitants, taking the Bells from the Houses of Worship, etc. The North Battery was levelled a few Days since, and the platforms burnt; on Wednesday morning they burnt the Mast and other Wood-Work of the Light-House on Beaver-Tail, and yesterday were destroying their Works near the Town. Their Departure is daily expected." *Providence Gazette*, October 23, 1779. The embarkation took place on the evening of October 25.

[2] Joseph Wanton, Jr., and William Wanton were among those who accompanied the British.

[3] William Barton (1748–1831).

[4] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

for them equall to your best wishes. We have not had anything remarkable since my last from below. the Enemy still continue their preparations to evacuate the Island, but the wind proving unfavourable till now they could not depart. The Gen'l has just sent an express from Bristol advising the embarkation of part of the Troops, and he conjectures they will go off this evening. by advise from New London we learn the Capture of Capt. Jno. Andrews in a Brigantine from New York, bound to Newport with whome were passengers, Capt. Maudsly, and Sam'l Goldthwait. They had on board a quantity of Goods just arrived at *N. Yk* on their accounts from England, its said to a considerable amount. They were taken by a small Schooner out of this river;[1] I am with due Sentiments of Respect and Esteem, Hon'd Sir, Your Obedient Nephew and Most Humble Servant,

DAVID LOPEZ, JUN'R

Monday noon. An express just arrived from Gen'l Washington, confirming the Capture of the British Garison at Beauford, with Sir James Wallace and his fleet, by the Count De Estaing. The attack was made on the 16th ulto. and carried after a very severe Conflict. They have taken prisoners 700 British with 200 Tories and negroes, and dispersed the rest through the woods, where the Militia were pursuing them on all quarters. 13 Transports 1 Ship of 50 Guns and severall Frigates is what the Fleet consisted of that fell into the Counts hand's. The Count after this proceeded to attack Savanah.[2] The wind continues North East and we momently expect to hear the departure of the Britons from Newport.

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[1] "The Privateer Schooner *Lively*, Capt. Esek Hopkins, jun. of this Port, in Company with a Privateer belonging to Connecticut, has taken three Vessels from New York, one of them very valuable, and sent them into New-London." *Providence Gazette*, October 30, 1779.

[2] The story is far from the facts. See Winsor, *Narrative and Critical History*, VI. 522.

Daniel Gardner to ——

Brother Cons't.,

Rec'd yours this day by Mr. Channing and find by the Contents Mr. Lopez agrees to my Terms in part. if Mr. Lopez will agree to allow me two Months Wages in case I am taken and can't proceed on my Voige, to get home, thats all I desire; but you know we may get taken and caried to the British Island. in that case if we are not detain'd we can proceed down to Jamaica and lose no time. Then I shall expect my Wages to go on and my Expences born. if Mr. Lopez agrees to the above Terms I am ready at any time to take Passage with Mr. Right and hope it will be early in December. Sally desires me to remind you of your promis of a Visit. I am yours, etc.,

Dan'l Gardner

So. Kingston, 13th November, 1779.

Abraham Pereira Mendez to Aaron Lopez[1]

Newport, 25th November, 1779.

Dear Mr. Lopez,

After a pleasant journey, I arrived here last Evening and found all our friends well; It has not been in my power to settle with Geo. Sears, as his Indisposition for these many days prevented it. however shall loose no time to see it done. Since I have been in town I procured 4 Boxes of Oil 6/ Stg cheaper per box than you expected to give Sears, have therefore made bold to buy it in preference to those. On my journey here, I reflected much on your troublesome Lawsuit, and would beg leave to mention, that if the Jury should return their Verdict larger than you could reasonably expect, it would be adviseable to petition the Court for a Rehearing, which will enable you to put your intended plan in Execution, and frustrate the design of your vilanous Antagonist; This will answer if you can obtain your petition without giving Security for the damages, however your

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Attorney will be able to give you a further advice on this head.

All those that were confind in the Provo, was liberated last friday on giving Security.

Wishing you every felicity you can wish am, with great Esteem, Yours very Affectionately,

Abr'm P. Mendez

The people in Town, have totaly refusd paper Money, and I suppose the Affair of a totall defeat of Count De Estaing and Gen'l Lincoln at Georgia, will help greatly to reduce our Currency. I make no doubt by this time, you have had a particular account, and shall only say, that a Vessell from Augustean bound to N York, and was obligd to put in here, in full confidence that this place was still in possession of the British Troops, have bro't the News, that of the Action of the 9th October the Count headed his troops and made a regular approach after being defeated the 16 Sep'r at last was totally repuls'd with a great Loss, and have divid'd his fleet, some to Delaware and others to Europe.

Abraham Pereira Mendez to Aaron Lopez[1]

Newport, 29th November, 1779.

Dear Mr. Lopez,

My last was by Mr. Goldthw't which I expected would leave this last Thursday, but was much surpriz'd to find he did not sett out untill this morning; This day I waited on Geo. Sears and have paid him the amo't of his Invoice. The mistake in the threads was discover'd previous to your letter. I shall use my means to have them packt tomorrow and shipp'd before I leave this which suppose will be the beginning of the week. David sett out for Providence yesterday morning: Christopher gott in Prov. last Friday and made his appearance here Saba. Capt. Wright waits for a wind to goe by water and probably will have one in the Morning; Capt. Story arrivd in Town yesterday, he says he was taken

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

by our people from Long Island, but am apt to think it was a concerted plan, and suppose he finished what business he went after at N York and put himself in the way of being taken. He express's a great desire of seeing you.

Christopher left the families well, and Sally Lopez much recoverd. your Bro. David left this for home yesterday, and Mr. Mears[1] expect to keep Saba at Leicester; Paper Money no Currency in this place and no manner of price for that Currency.

God grant you Success with your present contest, and wish to have the agreeable News from you, and that you have triump'd over those Scoundrells, that would rob you of your Money.

Our friends here are all well and am, Yours very Affect'ly,

ABR'M P. MENDEZ

DAVID LOPEZ, JR. TO AARON LOPEZ[2]

Leicester, 7th December, 1779.

Hon'd Sir,

I DID myself the honor of addressing you my respects from Newport per Mr. Goldthwait, which have the pleasure since my Arrivall here to learn had reached your hands.

The ill state of my Sisters health, and her anxious desire of seeing me stimulated me to leave the Island before Capt. Sears could attend to the delivery of the goods, Mr. Mendez being on the spot has taken charge and forwarded them to Providence, where I have the pleasure to advise you they arrived safe a few hours before my departure. Mr. Jacobs promised to attend emeadiately to their land'g and our faithfull Christovall (who arrived here with Capt. Wright last Even'g) tells me that he assisted in putting them safe in our Store, where they wait your further orders. The impracticability of obtaining Bills at this juncture in our quarter and the shocking disrepute of paper Medium has not permited me to improve what we have of it on hand for your

[1] Samson Mears.

[2] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

acct. at Newport they still hold it in the same point of view as when you was there, and with us at Providence, those who have goods of any kind, rather prefer holding them than our fleeting phantom of a Currency. I have left the Bundle you was pleased to put in my care, together with what we were in Cash (say about Ten Thousand Dollars) in Mr. Jacobs hands to attend your orders. hope it may not suffer from a further depriciation before you are able to invest it in something more permanent. Mr. Mears accompany'd me to the happy Hills of Leicester. he requests a tender of his best regards to you. we left Providence Sunday morning and reached here after a tedious Storm of Snow about 10 oClock yesterday, and found all our dear families in health excepting my good Aunt Rivera who is much indisposed with a Cold, and my poor Sister who is in a very low condition and I fear not long for this life.

hope e'r this Justice may have placed you secure from the dread of rancourous Envy and Villany, in terminating the troublesome litigation which has so long disturbed your tranquility agreeable to your most sanguine expectations. Accept Dear Sir my best wishes for your Success and happiness and believe me to continue with the utmost Respect and Esteem, Your Most Obedient Nephew and very Humble Servant,

DAVID LOPEZ, JUN.

BENJAMIN WRIGHT TO AARON LOPEZ[1]

Worthey Friend, Leicester, 11th December, 1779.

AFTER making a verry harty dinner, I am now alone in your Store, sorounded with Leather Breeches all serene and quiet, when in the hour of my serious Meditations I am surprised to find you inclined to tarry among a people who by there own confession are strongly attached to the political Laws and government of *inferno*, the Lord have mercy on them, and what adds to my astonishment, is when I consider

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

the rapid depreciation of our paper money, how they can support Two wives and are not ashamed to have the matter debaited in a Boston Court of Justice — be that as it may.

I have been at your House one whole week, living on the fatt of the Land, and my attendance fit for a Noble man. Your family at present are in number only 99 and still there is a vacancy for one more, and I desire you will return with all Expedition and fill it, then we shall be able to proseed to business. to prevent your inattention to what I have said, permitt me to hint, your Family if I mistake not, inclines to imbrace the Presbyterian Faith, a Religion of all now extant is the most fatal, to Humanity and Common Honesty; fraught with, Superstition and oppression, (whatever I may think I will not say — Rebellion) if this piece of Intelligence will not bring you home I must suppose you are inclined to take to your self, another wife. should that prove to be the case my friend, the first ox slead you see aproach the greate Town, prepare your self to meet a man Red with uncommon Rath to blast the man who oweth his greatness to paper Money. Yours most respectfully,

REDEMPTION DOUDLE

[Memo.] from Capt. Benj. Wright.

JAMES WILSON TO AARON LOPEZ[1]

Sir,

I HAVE been favoured with your Letter of the 23d of last Month, addressed to Mr. Lewis and myself, together with the Inclosure. Mr. Lewis is now indisposed: You will therefore be kind enough to accept of this as an answer from him as well as from me. Your Application for a Protection in Favour of Captain Gardner and Captain Wright, I will take the very first Opportunity of laying before the Gentlemen you mention; and you may rest assured that my best Advice and Assistance will not be wanting in order to promote its Success. The Event will be communicated to you so soon as I shall know it. I am sorry for the very long

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Delays you have experienced with regard to the Schooner *Hope*.[1] You have indeed reason to be dissatisfied with the Treatment which you have received in Connecticut. An unfortunate Concurrence of several Circumstances has hitherto prevented the Argument of the Motion for rehearing your Cause. But it is the first, or almost the first matter that will come on: And I hope, by next Post, to have the Pleasure of informing you that it is finally determined in your Favour.

I am, with great Regard, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

JAMES WILSON

Philadelphia, 13th December, 1779.

WILLIAM AND ROD'C LAWRENCE TO AARON LOPEZ

Sir,

WE now transmit you by Mr. Hide three Setts of bills of Exchange for 36 Dollars each, and one for 30 Dollars in favor of Alexander Catlin, also two Setts for 36 Dollars each, and one for 30, and one for 12 Dollars, in the name of Jos. Mather, which we have procured at 18 for one. We likewise forward One Sett for 30, four for 24, and three for 18 Dollars each, in favor John Robbins, also one for 24 Dollars, in favor of Seth Stanly, which were purchased at 20 for one. We trust we shall be able to forward on a sufficiency to make up the sum which you left with us, and are, Sir, with every Sentiment of Esteem Your Most Obedient Humble Servants,

WILL'M AND ROD'C LAWRENCE

Hartford, December 13th, 1779.

THOMAS MUMFORD TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Providence, 19 November, 1779.

Sir,

I AM now on my way Home from Boston. Left our Daughters well there last Evening, they are very happy.

[1] The papers in the case of Brooks *vs.* Lopez, claimant of Schooner *Hope*, and of Lopez *vs.* Griffith, *et al.*, 1778, are in the office of the Clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court.

my Daughter is in want of Half a Dozen Black feathers such as you sent your Daughter. I will be much obliged to you to procure for my good Girl that number or less if they are scarce. send them by some carefull hand to Mr. John Mumford at Clark and Nightingales in Providence, the amount of which shall be paid on first notice in either silver or paper, which you are obliged to pay for them, and if good handsome purple and white Calicho to make her two Gowns can be procured you will renew the Obligation to procure and send me to said John Mumford sufficient for that purpose say ten or 12 yards, or a whole piece if more convenient. I give you this trouble as I understand by your Daughter you bought the Black feathers for her at Newport and they cannot be had in Boston. excuse this freedom and oblige, Sir, Your most Humble Servant

THOS. MUMFORD

P. S. if eight scanes of Silk and hair of the Colours of the inclosed patterns can be procurd (four of each) pray send me them also, and continue the obligation to

T. M.

WILEY[1] AND COWPERTHWAIT TO [AARON LOPEZ?]

Stratford, 31st December, 1779.

Dear Sir,

WE address you at Leicester fully persuaded that the malicious and vexatious cause of your detention has 'ere this terminated (as it should) to the confusion of the prosecutors, and that your family are once more happy in your return to them. Our Journey has been attended with every Inconveniency that inclement weather, (such as we have lately had) coud involve us in. two days was intirely spent between this and New haven distant only fourteen miles, and after forcing a passage through a snow of nearly three feet deep, were oblig'd to leave our Carriage and one horse when within five miles and by dint of perseverance arriv'd here with the other (one of us walking the whole time). we

[1] John Wiley.

shall not be enabled to give you a perfect state of Markets as the post this moment waits for our letter sufficient to say that from the general appearance we do not doubt of selling our goods to advantage. we have not as yet received any intelligence from Mr. Blake. have left instructions for him with Mr. Pitkin[1] with a reinforcement of Cash and expect to wait here in hopes of a line per return of the post. Immediately on receiving information of our goods passing through Hartford (of which Mr. Pitkin will acquaint us), we shall proceed for Fishkill from whence we shall again write you. we are Sir with compliments to Capt. Wright, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Rivera, your good Lady, and all other Friends at Leicester your oblig'd and humble Servants,

WILEY AND COWPERTHWAIT

P. S. Please to inform Mr. Rivera that we have had an offer for his Tea of 50 Dollars if we woud deliver it here, which we may possibly accept of if nothing better offers within a day or two, as a strong rumor prevails that Holland has certainly acceeded to a loan of several Millions and that Congress has drawn to a large amount. this whether true or false serves to stagnate Business.

SAMSON MEARS TO AARON LOPEZ

Wilton, January 31st, 1780.

Dear Sir,

THE Tuesday morning after leaving you and encountering a severe cold Journey I had the happiness of joining our Families here, who I found in great anxiety about my long absence; the means I took to advise them of the cause, fail'd, and of course their conjectures were many, some not of the most favorable kind; however my arrival put an end to every painful feelling and gave way to the inexpressible enjoyment of embracing each other in perfect health. My intention of going to New London, was obstructed by the information I rec'd at the place where I was to take that

[1] Daniel Pitkin.

Road, of its being shut up; The only Road I could then take, was from Hartford, which would have encreased my journey 70 miles; My being out so long, and the great risque I run of being as much longer detained out by another fall of snow; and the infirmity of my Horse, were strong inducements for me to avoid that, and proceed home immediately and defer my business at New London for a future Journey.

From the information I obtain'd on the Road of the price of Produce that way, Coffee was mention'd at 6 dollars, so that if I had got there, there was no probability of effecting your order respecting that article. I cannot pass over in silence yours and every Branch of your worthy Family's friendly Civilities during my stay at your hospitable house. It fills me with every sentiment of Gratitude while I offer my grateful acknowledgements for the many kindness I have repeatedly received. . . .

SAMSON MEARS

SALE OF SHARE IN VESSEL

Boston 16 February 1780. Receiv'd of Sam Vernon Tertius One Hundred and Sixty four Pounds Nineteen Shillings and Ten Pence in full for One Sixteenth part of the Sloop *Lady Washington*[1] and Appurtenances.

AUGUST NEWMAN

£164.19.10.

[On the reverse of sheet,] Ninety pounds of the Within was paid by Sam Brown in a Balance due him for fiting the *Lady Washington* his third Cruise.

DANIEL PITKIN TO AARON LOPEZ

Hartford, 21 February, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I RECEIVED a letter from Mr. Wiley Stratford January 29 1780 wherein is the following words. "Mr. Lopez intends

[1] In 1782 and 1783 a Massachusetts vessel, engaged as privateer, bore this name.

sending on one Load of Currants and 2 Hdds. West India Rum. Should you have an offer for the Rum as high as 65 Dollars please to dispose of it. the Current send on as above likewise the Rum if you do not sell it. Yours etc. JOHN WILEY."

The 2 Hdds. Rum 10 BBs. of Currants an Two Tierces of White Sugar is now in the Store Rum unsold although offered for Sale. Capt. Wiley left in my hands one Tierce of Tea to sell for him to best advantage. We have not sold more than ½ doz. lbs. as that article seems at this time to be rather plenty. the Teams that carried on the 4½ pipes of Wine from my Store to Fish Kill returned last Saturday night in the evening. Left Sleds Yoaks and sold 2 Yoak of their oxen on account of the scarcity of keeping as they say. had but few words with them on account of the night, but understood they had delivered their Load to Major Bush, had rec'd no pay fo[r] Transportation but expect it from me which I shall do. They say Capt. Wiley went from fish Kill that day before they arived. The badness of the Roads I think it not prudent to send on the Goods now nor do I know whether I can get any Teams that would be willing to go on now. I advanced One Thousand Dolers to carry Mr. Blake forward and One Thousand for the Wine for I could not get any Team under 10 Doller per mile which is a high price so that I have not Money enough to send on the two Loads unless I should sell Tea or Rum faster than I have done. I thought proper to make you Sir acquainted with the matter as it stands. I suppose that wind and weather hath been much against Capt. Wileys proceedings. Notwithstanding be willing to advance any Sum for him knowing that I have Goods of his in my hands to much greater amount if sold to carry all forward. What little Money I have now on hand is chiefly in hard Cash which should be loth to stir as the times are. I should be glad to purchase one Tierce or half a Tierce of your White Sugar in my Store if it suited you to sell it and if you conclude to let me have one please to let me know by the next post the price etc. the price in paper Bills and the price in hard money. Shall want a Hdd or Tierce

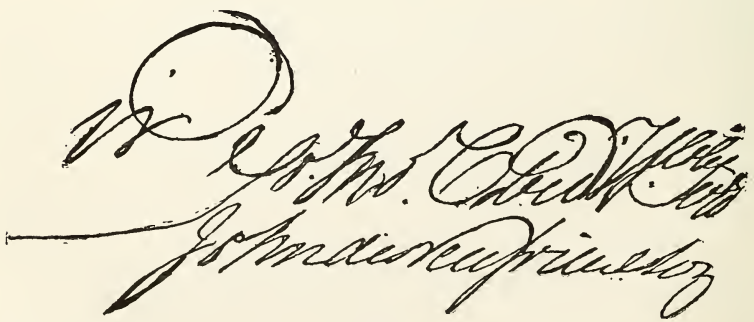
of Good West India Rum for the purpose of keeping Tavern or retailing if you could let me have it by and by. if I can be of any service in selling any Goods in my Store for you shall be willing on low Commissions. You will be pleased to let me know your Mind next post. as Capt. Wiley is at great distance from me thought the best and earliest instructions might be had from you. I am with Highest Esteem Your Humble Servant

DANIEL PITKIN

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir, Amsterdam, the 24 February, 1780.

WE have lately received the bad news that our Brigg *Lady Amelia*[1] met with the misfortune of being droven on shore near Madeira by a violent gale of wind where she has been obliged to put in, for want of water, an English privateer having robbed her of all she had on board. the Vessel is intirely lost the Crew saved and also part of the Cargoe which will be sold at Madeira the management of the matters being confided there to M[ess]rs. John Searle and Comp. a very respectable house, and due care will be taken of every thing as soon as we have the generall account of sales. We will accordingly make an exact repartition and hope to be in the case to restore you some part of the loss. We hope also you'll meet with better luck in the future where to we will contribute what lays in our power, being in the mean after tenders of our best service With all regard,



[1] The master's name was Würtze Gurts de Bour.

Thomas Smart to Aaron Lopez

Providence, February 28th, 1780.

Sir,

Your favour of the 24th came duly to hand by Mr. David Lopez in whose favour find you have drawn on me for £2568 being the amount of those Cambricks I rec'd from Mr. Coburn.

But as I presume my taking the whole in some measure disappointed you on your arrival in Boston expecting I might have taken but part according to Agreement, obliges me to make some Apology on that head; the day I rec'd the Cambricks from Mr. Coburn I rec'd orders to set out for Camp for which place made immediate preparations for, and knowing you would have taken them with you to Leicester had not the Evening hurried you out of Town determined in my own mind (as I expected to come your way) to wait on you and pay as much as might be then in my power towards the whole, making no doubt but you would have been willing to indulge me with so long time as I could have remitted the Ballance from Camp; but the weather coming on so severe and the roads being for some time impassable has detained me till now being under the necessity of altering my rout on account of those Stockings I had to receive here, as likewise to have what things I had in Boston brought this way to pack the Stockings with, which things on their passage here unfortunately got wet and five peices of Cambrick were staind which has done them no other damage than not appearing so merchantable as the rest, on which event I had wrote to acquaint you of the matter which would have been forwarded some days ago had the regular post arrived, but yours coming on Saturday last have substituted this.

I have therefore paid Mr. David Lopez the sum of £1208 for 5 of the peices Number as follows 640, 680, 710, 720, 850. the remaining 5 should be extremely glad to have, if I could be favourd with so long time as I can remit the Balance from Camp, which would not be more than five or six weeks.

your compliance to this will greatly oblige, Sir, Your humble Servant,

THOMAS SMART

P. S. Should the above be not convenient for you to comply with as prior engagements might probably prevent it will lodge the 5 remaining peices with Mr. David Lopez on receipt of your order.

DAVIS AND BENSON TO AARON LOPEZ

Boston, 21st March, 1780.

Sir,

WE have now to advise you that on Saturday last, the Snow *Happy Return*, together with her sails, rigging, stores and Guns, were sold at publick auction per Account hereto annex'd. Your proportion of the Money we shall receive and retain 'till we are favour'd with your Orders for its delivery. the exact amount we cannot yet ascertain. Capt. Minthurn was on the spot and thought it adviseable to have her sold, in which we concur'd. with sentiments of due esteem, We are Sir, Your Obedient Friends,

DAVIS AND BENSON

The conditions of Sale are, that the Money for the Snow be paid on Thursday next and that the late Owners defray the expense and risque the arrival of the Guns from Chatham, which are to be paid for on the delivery.

Sales of the Snow *Happy Return*, etc., etc. Boston, 18th March, 1780.

Snow *Happy Return* with her sails, rigging and stores	£23,700.
10 Swivel Guns . . . at £100	1,000.
Powder (more or less, wt. not ascertain'd) at £6.15/	
Musquet Shott Do. . . ditto . . . at 21/ per Cwt.	
Swivel Shott (number not Do.) at 4/6 per do.	
Wooden Guns . . . do. £12. each, . . .	
15 small Arms . . . at £18.10/ per peice	277. 10
2 pair four pound Cannon at £2500 per Pair	5,000.--
Cannistre and Langrage [langrel] Shott £61 for the whole . .	61.--

Wheeler Coit to Christopher Champlin

Preston, Monday, April 17th, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I have just now had a man with me that had about 220 Dollars in Exchange his price is 45 for 1 in Continental or hard money to make it equal to that allowing 50 for 1. I have not the Continentall or think should chose to have paid him in that. I offered him 100 Silver Dollars for 120 in Bills which is little more than 83 for 100. Believe I shall be able to procure about 400 Dollars at 85 for 100.[1] in case I should not be able to get Esquire Leffingwells that I mentioned to you tho I here his Vessel is sailed that he wanted to send hard money in. purpose to see him tomorrow. the people I have seen since I came home had all heard that Bills were par in Boston.

Since writing the above this moment have heard that considerable part of the Bills is going to be sent to Boston tomorrow mean to see after them this night and can add no more. I am Sir your most Humble Servant,

Wheeler Coit

[Endorsed,] favoured by Mr. Lester.

Wheeler Coit to Christopher Champlin

Preston, May 12th, 1780.

Dear Sir, Yours of the 9th Instant is before me. observe what you say about Bills. I think you told me when I met you on Boston Neck to engage you about 400 Dollars in Bills there was not any particular limit'd price then mention'd. I have stop'd about that Sum being sent to Boston purposely for to serve you. am afraid have bro't my self into some trouble, tho I shall endeavour to return

[1] "The price of exchange is hard to determine as there is no Bills at market. People generally receeve @ 40 for one. Hard money has fell from 85 to 65 for one, and some People say 55 for 1. West India goods are or have been upon the fall. N. E. Rum, 41 Dollars per Gallon; W. I. Rum, 18 to £20; Tea £21 per lb; sugar £180 per Ct." *Jarvis and Russell to Aaron Lopez*, Boston, July 27, 1780.

them to the Owners. those who sent their Bills to Boston some have received par others 95 for 100 in hard money.

have sent you a Bill of three hundred Dollars of my own which I told you I thought I chose to risque, which if you will take the one half and pay in Bills again, or risque it with me as propos'd pleas to take a Receipt of the master in your Name and mine the neat proceeds to be laid out in German Steel or Bohea Tea. I will risque so much with you in another vessel if it suits best pleas to write me and send Coppy of the Receipt. the black fellow is impatient to wait so can ad no more. I am, Sir, your most Humble Servant,

WHEELER COIT

THOMAS SMART TO AARON LOPEZ

Highlands, May 20, 1780.

Sir,

MUST beg your pardon for not forwarding the Ballance due to you for the Cambricks, but there has not been one farthing these three months in Camp nor no expectations of any at present. can send Notes issued from the State of Massachusetts Bay if agreable to you, which should they be please to direct a Line by way of Fish Kill for me in the 13th Massachusetts Regiment now lying in the Highlands. expect to make an allowance for the depreciation. I am Sir with great regard Your Obedient Servant

THOMAS SMART

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS[1] TO AARON LOPEZ

Amsterdam, 21 May, 1780.

Sir,

HERE with you've the Third Copy of our last respects under date of the 24 March, to its contents we beg you'll be referr'd. have now again the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of the duplicate of your favor of the 14 Xber and

[1] The Crommelins were a Dutch banking house with American connections. Daniel and Charles Crommelin took the freeman's oath at New York in 1698, and their descendants long held a prominent position among the merchants of that city.

original of the 20 do., by the last we saw with much pleasure the safe arrival of the Sloop *Diamond* Capt. Cooke and are much obliged at your attention to communicate the same to our good Friend Mr. Rivera; As by the Postscript of your letter you give us Liberty to ship your Goods on Board of the Brig *Ketty* which was not arrived induced us to apply to William Haydon Commander of the *Hannah*, how to oblige us, consented to take the same; and in consequence have loaded it as per inclosed Bill of Lading and Invoice, amount bo. £929: 5. – which Sum we have passed to your debit; be pleased to note the same in conformity. we heartily wish the whole safe to hand and hope will prove to your satisfaction. we have sent you the glazes of such sorts as we thought woud sute your purpose and added a few of the most fachionable at present, thinking they woud be agreeable, if not for sale, for your own use. You will find also mentioned in the Bill of Lading a Case markd AL No. 3 which we have taken the Liberty to address to your Care for our good friend Mr. Jacob Rodriguez Rivera. We beg as a particular favor to receive it and settle the freight of it with Capt. Haydon. for your Governo its Value is £[*blank*], contains [*blank*] Ells of Deaper Table cloth. after receipt be pleased to follow said Gentlemen directions thereon and account with him for your charges. Your forwarding him the inclosed as also the others to their address will be a new obligation conferred on us.

We have obtained the acceptance of your four Bills on the Commiss's at Paris for Dollars 120 is at 5 £600. negociated

at 52½*d* per Ecu[1] of £3 is Bo....		£262.10 – –
Agio 4½ p Ct.....		£ 11.16 – –
		£274. 6. – –
Commission ½ p	£1.7.–	
Brokerage 19m	.6.–	2.13.– –
Postage of Let.	1.–.–	
		£271.13.– –

The same we have passed to your Credit.

[1] A silver coin passing at seven livres or less.

It was not well possible for us to close exactly your account without much trouble and dare say it will be a matter of indifference to you, as we flatter ourselves to be further favored with your commands.

You've here inclosed the answer of Mr. Leake on the Letter we transmitted him at your desire.

There is as yet no alteration in the Political Sistem of Europe, and war seems to be going on with the same vigor as former years. For your Governo you've here inclosed a price current of our Market and beg here to reiterate you our offers of best services, and to such of your friends as you may be pleased to recommand our house. We remain Very respectfully, Sir: Your most obedient Servants,

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS

P. S. We have also received per Capt. Haydon the Copy of your favors of 17 and 18 May and 2 July of last year but as they required no answer we've passed them under Silence. You've here also a Letter for Mr. Henry Bowers Junior, which we beg youll forward him by the first safe conveyance, and as said gentleman has also two chests of Tea on board, shoud he not give in time the needful directions thereon, we beg you'll taken them under your care, untill you've his directions. they are marked H.B. No. 1 and 2.

THOMAS SMART TO AARON LOPEZ

Providence, June 11th, 1780.

Sir,

ABOUT 3 weeks ago I wrote to you from the Highlands acquainting you it was not in my Power to fulfil my Engagement, by reason there had no Money been paid to our Troops since the 1st day of last November, and my health continueing much impaired was under the necessity of leaving Camp before the arrival of any Cash, which not only has been attended with many Inconveniences to our Officers in furnishing themselves with necessary supplies, but disappointed me in discharging such Contracts I have made for their use;

I have arranged my affairs in such manner as to have immediate Remittances to this place as soon as the first Payments are made, therefore must beg your indulgence for a short time longer, expecting to make such reasonable Compensation for the time that has elapsed as in your good judgment shall require, being sensible you will take into Consideration the present Circumstances of our Officers who are sufferers for the want of their Pay being made to them in Season: if our State notes for the first year which are calculated at $32\frac{1}{2}$ for one should be agreable will endeavour to pay you in them. I am, Sir, etc.

THOMAS SMART

JOSEPH LOPEZ TO AARON LOPEZ

Leicester, June 27: 1780.

Hon'd Sir,

I HAVE the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your two very acceptable letters per last Post, and am truly happy to hear you and Mama had returned safe and well from Newburry after an agreable excursion. In compliance to your desire have now transmitted per the Post Rider all the Money we can at present command in a Bundle seal'd containing Thirty five Thousand Dollars, and all the first Bills of each Sett I received from Mr. Vanderwoort.

I beg leave to congratulate you on the safe arrival of Capt. Earl at Newport from a Voyage to the West Indies in seven weeks only. In this Vessell your good self Mama and self are interested $\frac{1}{64}$th. it is said Capt. Earl has made a fine voyage.

I being now in so much haste have not time to add much more. to-day being Training, they find it extreemly difficult to raise our Quoto of Men, and a continual throng of people around me, obliges me to close in haste, tho' not without presenting my Duty to Mama, and to believe that I am Your Dutiful Son,

JOSEPH LOPEZ

P. S. I had forgot to send the last Post the Bottle Mustard you desired, but have now deld it to the Rider. I have paid the Rider 85 dollars for postage of the Money.

Richard Woodman to Christopher Champlin

Wethersfield, July 18, 1780.

Sir,

I have this oportunity riting you a few Lines to let you no that Salt and Rum is very dull I have this moment offered it for the Salt for 6 Dollars per bushel and the Rum at 6 Shillings and take Bills at 95 and 60 Days after Site and thay will not give it and if I cant git that I shall store the same and com home for hard money I cant git at any rate and I cant by any Cind of goods on acount of debeting Commesereys ingaging too Mr. Wordworth will do me all the good he can. I am yours,

Richard Woodman

I am in hast you may [know] by the riting.

Samson Mears to Aaron Lopez

St. Georges, Granada, July 19th, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I have the Pleasure to advise you of my safe arrival here yesterday, after a Passage of 36 Days, and as these Vessels are bound to Salem where you are well acquainted, and anxious to get the agreeable Tidings as soon as possible to my anxious Family, induces me to put the Letters under cover to you, not doubting but you will forward them on with the greatest expedition. I shall improve an opportunity of a Danish Bottom that goes this Morning for Statia under the Sanction of an Act of the Br. Parliament pass'd last May in favor of the Inhabitants of this Island, who are indulged to ship the Produce of this Island on Board any Nieutral Bottom to pass unmolested by any of their Cruisers; which circumstance affords a very advantageous Trade between this and Statia. You'll please to understand this Indulgence only extends to this Island and the Granadines as it surrendered at discretion, the other Islands capitulated under some advantages this did not.

There is nothing new to communicate and hurry compels me to conclude, which is with the sincerest regard to you and your extensive Family from Dear Sir your esteem'd Friend and Humble Servant,

SAMSON MEARS

DE VALNAIS[1] TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Boston, the 20th July, 1780.

Sir,

THE hurry I was in to set out for Boston, has hindered me to wait upon [you] before my Departure. I expected you would call upon me when I was at New Port. Mr. Bell the Bearer of this will pay you what you have been so kind as to advance for Messieurs de Villemarais and Chadirac. M. Bell as Correspondent and agent of M. Holker will supply the wants of the french Fleet; so it is not in my power to do anything on that Head; but I have strongly recommended M. Bell to give you the preference when opportunity will present for articles of Goods you may have to dispose of. I expect to go to New Port some time in the next week. . . . I have, etc.

DE VALNAIS

JOSEPH AND JOHN ROGERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Providence, 28th July, 1780.

Sir,

WE received yours of yesterday's date about 8 o'clock this Morning and in consequence of your requisitions our Jno. Rogers made immediate Application at Mr. Bacon's house who we find went to Boston the day before yesterday. he is expected by the Family to return tomorrow or the day after. perhaps it may not be too late to have the Rum lodg'd in Attleborough about 9 or 10 Miles from hence which will be attended with the additional Expence of a Man's going out there to procure a safe place to lodge it at as we

[1] Consul of France at Boston.

presume the Teamsters will not make any Allowance from their Contract to deliver it in this Town. As West India Goods are in little demand and Continental Money very scarce in this Town at present we shall be oblig'd perhaps to sell the Rum under its real worth for the purpose of raising the Cash and wish for your more particular directions in this matter.

At present we are in a Scene of Confusion, the Militia are all order'd to be in readiness and expect momently orders to repair to the Island in consequence of the intelligence rec'd of a British Army marching Eastward on Long Island.[1] their Embarkation and appearance of Newport will at once prevent the removal of a single article of private property be it where it will, in or near this State. give me your further directions respecting the Rum and the Tenor of them shall be comply'd with, with as much punctuality as is possible.

the Salt have stor'd agreeable to your directions on a Wharf Store which saves Trunkage Expence and the Freight being £90 Currency paid the Skipper and his rec't del'd up.

We enclose you a price current in Boston by a Gentleman's Letter of the 22d inst. date, who informs us the *Gen'l Starks* out of Cape Ann a 20-Gun Ship has captur'd 3 valuable Ships bound to Quebec with 350 Hhds. of Rum a large Quantity of Dry Goods among which it is said there is 12000 ps. of Irish Linnen.

the Air Furnace for casting Iron Cannon in this Town was last night entirely consum'd by Fire.

Nothing further material occuring at present We beg to subscribe ourselves with Sincere Esteem, Sir, Your very humble Servants

Jos. and Jno. Rogers

P. S. We shall write you again at Mr. Bacon's return immediately.

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[1] The French fleet with an army had reached Newport a few days before this letter was written.

Price Current Boston July 22d.

W. I. Rum	£18 to £20 Gal'n	Indigo	£24 to £30 lb.
N. E. Do.	£12 to £13.4/	Bar Iron	£5. to 6000 per Ton.
Lf Sugar	96/ to 120/	Wheat Flour	£140 to £150.
Brown Do.	£180. to £200.	Rye	£90. to £100.
Tea, Bohea	£21. to £24.	French Bills of Exchange	50 to 60 for one.
Coffee	60/ to 72/.	Hard Money, 60 to 70.	
Chocolate	80/ to 90/.		

Joseph and John Rogers to Christopher Champlin

Providence, 31st July, 1780.
Monday, 9 o'Clock Morning.

Sir,

We just now received yours of yesterday's date previous to which we convers'd with Mr. Bacon concerning the Rum, who return'd from Boston Yesterday and informs us it is not to be mov'd untill his further directions, in consequence of which we have order'd that it shall not be sent on untill he receives yours or our Orders for that purpose which he engages to comply with.

The Salt shall be delivered your Order, the person whose Favour it is in paying Freight, Storage, Wharfage, and Rolling to the Store, agreeable to the Tenor of your Letter. The Freight £90, Rolling £6, and Wharfage and Storage not yet ascertain'd but at the Customary Rate.

We are greatly at a Loss in our Opinion respecting the Movements of the Enemy but believe their immediate Object is a general Stroke at the Fleet and Army in your Town, or to frustrate the Attempts of our Allies against Jamaica — the former appears by far the most feasable tho the Dismission of all the Militia this Morning is a favourable Omen. That you will still be in a more happy Situation, than the confus'd Noise of War, Thunder of Cannon and Death at your very Doors, that you may be deliver'd from those horrid Scenes is the ardent Wish of Sir Your very humble Servants

Jos. and Jno. Rogers

George Hayley to Christopher Champlin

Sir, London, 3d August, 1780.

My last bore date 8th April 1778 since which I have received your favours of 7th January 1779, 9th, 17th April and 10th May, 1780. The bills you advise to have drawn upon me for £30 in favour of Mr. John De Neufville and £200 in favour of Henry Greig are paid and placed to your debit. I have just received a remittance from Stephen Deblois for £199.15.7 which will be placed to your credit. With this remittance I received your memorandum for a few Goods to be forwarded to Messrs. John DeNeufville and Son of Amsterdam for your Account which was dispatched to them in a few days, and herewith you have the Invoice thereof amounting to £84.14.11 which is placed to your debit. You say nothing about Insurance on these Goods. I therefore make none from hence to Amsterdam, and as the risk is very trifling I hope they will arrive in safety. From Amsterdam I suppose Messrs. De Neufville's have your instructions to insure them, for which purpose I give them the amount of the Invoice.

Your letter of the 7th Janry., 1779, respecting the remaining £100 Insurance on the *Peggys* freight has been laid before the Insurers but I have not been able to obtain a settlement. By the Laws of Insurance here Insurers are not liable to any expence which arises from detention. If your Vessel had proceeded from Norwich to her destined port, you must have born the expence of transporting her thither before you could have been entitled to your full freight. If therefore the Insurers pay your full freight, they must be allowed the expence that was saved by her not proceeding from Norwich. This they think could not have been less than £100 for Wages, provisions, port charges, and expence of unloading, and other small charges. In this calculation however I suppose they over rate it; but I must beg the favour of you to make out and send to me as regular an Estimate as you can of what those charges would have been

and no time shall be lost in getting it adjusted. I notice that you think the remittances received from Mr. Trant cannot be in full, to which I can only say that he calls them in full, and says he allows Interest for part of the time the money lay in his hands. I can do nothing with Mr. Brymer, he denies having any orders from his Nephew. If you can procure and send me such an order he shall be diligently followed. I am, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

GEO. HAYLEY

[Endorsed,] Via Amsterdam.

SAMSON MEARS TO AARON LOPEZ

St. Eustatia, August 6th, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE the happiness to advise you of safe arrival to this Island, which I found strangely altered; filld with Strangers, Goods and Shipping. There has been a very advantageous Trade carried on here for some time past, but the reduction of Carolina and the Huricane Season, has given it a sudden check. At a more leisure opportunity I shall descant more largely on commercial matters, and then I hope to be able to give you some account of your Bill on Is. Werden Esqr. which I am sorry to say is yet unsettled; it shall be a matter of my attention to effect a settlement and of which shall advise you hereafter. In the mean time beg your care in forwarding the inclosed and crave your acceptance of the annex'd Price Current with my respectful regard to you and all your good Family, being with real esteem Dr. Sir Your Friend and humble Servant

SAMSON MEARS

P[rice] Current.

Clay'd Sugar	8½ to 14 ps.	Russ Sheeting	18 ps.
Musco. Ditto	7 to 8 ps.	Oznab [urg]s	6 to 7 St.
Molasses	2 Bitts.	Russ. Drilling	10 to 11 ps.
Rum	3½ to 4½ Bt.	Cordage scarce	16 to 18 ps.
Coffee	1 Bt.	Stripes	4½ to 6 ps.
Cotton	15 to 16 Stiv's.	N 2 Checks	4½ ps.
Cocoa	9 ps.	3 do.	5 to 5¼ ps.
Gin	4 to 4½ ps.	Britans	18½ to 20 Bts.

Brandy the keg	6 ps.
Hol'd Duck	24 to 26 ps.
Russ. Do.	16½ to 17 ps.
Rav. Do.	14 ps.
Cinamon and Mace	4 ps.
Cloves	3½ ps. Nutm's 2¾ ps.
Selissia Hank's	4½ to 12 ps. doz.
Col. Romal Do.	4½ to 5½ ps. 15 in ps.
Barcelong do.	12 to 16 ps. doz.
Com. Callicoes	4 to 8 Bts. Ell.
Kentings	4 to 7 ps.
Cambrick	7 to 30 ps.
Muslins	10 to 40 ps. 24 Ells ps.
Gauze	4 to 11 B'ts yd.
Lawn	8 to 30 ps. 12½ El's ps.
Dutch Ribbons	6 to 33 Bts. 20 do. ps.
Boards	55 ps. m.
W. O. Staves	77 ps. do.
R. O. do.	55 ps. do.
Hoops fit for Tobacco Hh'ds	80 ps.
Shingles	10 ps.
Flour	12 ps. B'l.
Best heavy beef	18 ps.
Plattillias	11 to 12 ps.
Engl'h do.	11 at 8½ ps. 36 yds. ps.
Dutch Blankett	16 to 18 B'ts.
Engl'h do. Comm'n	20 to 30 Bts.
Com. Negro Cloth	11 to 12 ps. a ps.
Bath Coating	10 to 12/ yd.
Ind. Chintz	10 to 100 ps. Patern
Virgin. Tobac.	14 to 20 ps.
M. Land do.	8 to 11 ps.
Cowpen no sale for.	
Carolina Indigo	3 to 7 B't.
French do.	12 B'ts.
Irish Linens	3 to 16 B'ts yd.
Bohea Tea	6 B'ts.
Green Do.	16 to 20 B'ts.
Bl. Pepper scarce	5 Bits.
Light do.	14 ps.
Pork	22 ps.
Butter	12½ firk.
Codfish	8 ps.
Mackerel	8½ ps.
Congress Bills on France	8 to 8½ Bitts the Dollar.

Assignees of William Stead to Christopher Champlin

London, 9th August, 1780.

Sir,

Misfortunes, the want of remittances, and an infirm state of health hath induced Mr. Stead to put all his affairs into the hands of Assignees for the benefit of himself and Creditors. We have therefore, in order to facilitate a close of his Estates and Effects in America, disposed of the whole to the bearer, George Rome, and have this day executed proper Deeds of Conveyances to him, with powers to recover by and give the necessary discharges; And whereas it appears to us, that Mr. Robert Jenkins, Junior, deceased, as attorney to Messrs. William Stead and Son, alias Mr. William Stead, took a Mortgage on some Lands in Rutland in order to secure a Debt of £800 Stg: And as that Debt and Mortgage is now assigned over to Mr. Rome, and he is apprehensive a

quitclaim or Deed of conveyance from Mr. Jenkins's Heirs or Executors, etc., may be necessary; We, therefore, hereby request, you will either separately, or jointly with Mr. Bulkley's Heirs, give him such further Conveyances as the Law may require to annul so far the transactions of the said Robert Jenkins, as to render Mr. Romes title to the premises compleat against his Heirs etc. We are, Sir, Your Most Obedient Humble Servants,

WILLIAM STEAD
MARTIN PETRIE } *Assignees*
CHARLES JACOMBY

JOSEPH AND JOHN ROGERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Providence, August 19th, 1780.

Sir,

OUR John Rogers forgot calling on you in Newport as promis'd but takes this Opportunity of requesting you wou'd send up 500 Dollars which shall be credited your Account, 320 being already paid, and the Storage and Wharfage yet unsettl'd. Your further directions respecting this or any other Business shall be with pleasure accomplish'd to the best of our Abilities.

Have annex'd you a price current which cannot if of no Service, be the contrary. Mr. Bacon informs me the Merchants in Boston sell their Goods for Hard and paper Currency at as much odds as 75 for One, the Exchange here is about 70. I refus'd 100 Hard Dollars offer'd at that the day before Yesterday. Please to give us a general price current with you which will much oblige Sir Your very humble Servants

JOS. AND JNO. ROGERS

W. I. Rum £21. Boston, common proof £27 here 20 per Ct. over proof.
N. England Do. £13.10/ Boston. Charge £80 for hhds.
Molasses £12. to £13. Boston. £13. to £14.2/ here.
Bohea Tea 70 to 75 Dollars Boston, £22.10 to £24 here.
Coffee 9 to 10 Dollars Boston, 10 to 11 Dollars here.
Dry Goods a genteel Assortment of English Goods in this Town at about £300 L. Money for £100 Sterling prime Cost in Europe. A Merchant with a good Capital may make an advantageous purchase.

Daniel Crommelin and Sons to Aaron Lopez

Amsterdam, 22th August, 1780.

Sir,

Our last we had the pleasure of writing you was the 21th May per Capt. Haydon, by which we inclosed you Invoice and Bill of Loading for the sundries we had shipped you on board of his Vessel the brig *Hannah* amounting to £929.5. Since we have been favored with your sundry letters under date of the 17 April 10, 25 and 29 May their verious contents we have duly noted. we have your following bills vizt. Benjamin Wrights draft on John Pitt at 60 days sight for £40 Stg. and three bills on the Commissioners at Paris together Dolls. 108. these have meet due honor and your Account has been creditted with.

In regard to the further contents of your letter and the Consignment you've made us per the Ship *Rambler* Capt. Lovet,[1] her entering into Marstrand [2] has brought us in to many difficulties, first it is not permitted for any Swedish Vessel to bring us any other produce here but those of the Growth of that Country, and there being no dutch Vessel at Marstrand your Goods must remain there untill one offers, and to have them sold there will not answer, it being a very poor country, and Ashes is one of the principal returns they make to this country. besides as they must be brought here freight free Mr. Sigourney has put them under the care of one Mr. Henry Crugh, who has promised to forward us the whole as soon as a Vessel offers, which hope will be soon. we can neither make any calculation on the Indigo, a sale depends on its quality it being worth from 20 to 60 St. and upwards. Regarding sending you the Goods from hence, we found no less difficulties, as there is seldom or no dutch Vessels a going there and the quantity of Goods you had ordered was not sufficient to engage one except to have paid half their Value in freight. we had however the promise of a Swedish one and in consequence we purchased and made

[1] Captain Benjamin Lovet.

[2] A seaport of Sweden, on an island in the Cattegat.

ready your order except sundry Goods which we could not get here and were obliged to order in London. In the interim these preparations were making the Swedish Vessel declined the Voyage, but soon after another offered, tho' in the interim we were also informed that no China Articles were permitted to be imported at Marstrand. So that we found ourselves obliged to leave out the 4 Boxes China and the 12 ps. Bandanna Handkerchiefs, wich must now remain with us untill we receive your further directions. as to the Perlong Sattins they were not to be met here. the other articles are now a shipping on board of the *Catharine* Capt. Pieter Stoström who departs next Saturday. we shall address the same to Mr. Sigourney or in his absence to Capt. Lovat, with order to take them on board of his Ship to your Consignment and to send you and us a bill of Loading. we have constantly advised Mr. Sigourney how matters stood that they might detain the Vessel untill the arrival of your Goods, which hope will prove the case. as to the regulating of the Freight Mr. Sigourney has wrote us.

You'll please to ship the whole amount of Mr. Lopez effects, or as near as you can and the 28 per Ct. and 12 per Ct. may be settled in America with the owners of the *Rambler*.

as it is impossible for us to make any calculations regarding the Value of your Effects, untill they are sold, no other method is left but its being settled between you, on our transmitting you the Acct. Sales, when we shall calculate its amount and bulk in Tea, as likewise let you know the bulk of the Goods shipped. we are very sorry that it is not in our power to act more consistent to your directions but doubt not your self will be convinced we coud not do otherwise. when your Effects per the *Rambler* are safe deliver'd to us we shall then discharge in course your draft on us for £3333.6. in favor of Nath'l Tracy Esqr. and debit your Account with. We have receiv'd per Capt. Davis the Cask of Indigo which is only valued at 45 St. this has made us determine to put it at public Vendue to see if some thing more coud be obtained, as the same will yield by far less than you expected and we can get no Insurance effectuated

here on any American Vessel. we resolved to make the purchase of one Chest of Tea and to send it you in return of said Cask of Indigo per said Vessel as per inclosed bill of Loading and Invoice which amounts to £334:9. the same we've pass'd to your debit. when we've sold the Cask we shall transmit you the sales and so whatever difference there may be, you can more easily settle it than we with the person whose property it is. we flatter our selves you'll approve what we've done as otherwise it had been impossible for us to have made you its return by this Vessel. we are sorry to mention you that to this day the Brigantine *Pallas* Hector McNeill is not yet arrived, so that in all appearance said Vessel is fallen into wrong hands. shoud she yet appear, you can depend on our attention to comply to your orders. We are very sensible at the many marks of friendship you've been pleased to give us by recommending to us Messrs. Hopkins and Bradford to whom we shall with pleasure render all the services in our power We intend to address you further in a few days. in the interim we remain very respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient Servants

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS

P. S. none but the fine copper colour'd Indigo will sell to advantage here and no flower can be admitted.

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Amsterdam, 2d Sept., [1780.]

Sir,

THE foregoing is Copy of what we had the honour of writing to you the 20th July per Capt. Lamprell, and having just received from Mrs. George Hayley in London the two trunks you prevented us of, marked © No. 1 and 2 we have shipped them directly as follows

No. 1. per the Brigg *Dolphyn*, Edward Davis, M'r. bound for Boston directed to Mr. Jarvis and Russell.

No. 2. per the Brigg *Betzey*, Joseph Cooke, bound for Rhode Island and directed to your good self.

inclosed you have the account there on amounting to £73.16 Currency, for which your account is debitted. we send one bill of Lading to Mr. Jarvis and Russell of the trunk No. 1, and inclose you the other, desiring very much it may both come safe to hand. You'll also find hereby a letter Mrs. Hayley desired us to forward, but as we have no duplicate there of we send it only by Capt. Cooke tho' this our letter goes by both Vessels.

By what we wrote you at severall times we suppose you have been fully acquainted with the loss of the Brigg *Amelia* near Madeira whereby we shipped one Chest Tea for you to the Amount of 313.4, the Ballance of £26.18. due to you on the remitted bill of £.st.30. remains still at the Creditor on you account, and what may be your share in the salvage which we calculate will go to about 20% will be added thereto, but we are not able yet to make up the generall account by want of some papers which have been lost by the vessell they came in from Madeira. we wrote sundry times for the duplicates and hope they may at length reach us. after this matter is settled we will lay out what may be due to you in good white Lead and ship it for Boston according to your directions. we have the honour to be most respectfully, Sir, Your Most obedient humble Servants,

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON

DANIEL PITKIN TO AARON LOPEZ

Hartford, September 14th, 1780.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE sent on 2 Teams for Capt. Wileys Goods, Ens. Joseph Hurlburt and G. Roberts. Roberts you will please to give 3000 lb. in full as per agreement of Capt. Wiley. You was pleased to ask my opinion on the Sail of Salt. the Inhabitants round here are but poorly supplyed with this artickle now but say their is a plenty in Boston. The Teamsters go down and fetch it and return for 100 wt flower 1 Bushell of Rock Salt. their is likely to be considerable pork to be salted on the River but cannot say how Salt will

come in. I fancy that the Market in Hartford will be much governed by the Market in Boston. I wish that the Salt might be sold for Continental Bills if Silver or flower cannot be obtained for it. Bohea Tea retails at 120 Doll's 1 li. Pray Sir have you any Scarlet Br'd Cloth. Mrs. White a Lady which I am Administrator with on her late Husbands Estate wants 1¼ yard for a Cloak for her Daughter of a pretty good Quality not the most superfine. the price she wishes to know. if you would please to give a Shred to the Teamsters will pay in Continental Money or she will take out of the office next month Bill on France at 30 days sight to the amount of 96 Doll's. Will have them to dispose of and perhaps they will suit in payment and as all men wish to get the most so the Women wish for the same. 50 can be had at the office and I believe that it is the highest price they are sold at and as they will fall into my hands to dispose of must do the best for the Widdow and fatherless: If the Cloth and price suit will be glad to take it and will send if in the course of any Buisiness we should have and will serve our mutual Interest will be glad to save the Bills for you Sir if you are inclined to purchase them. I am with Respect Your Humble Obedient Servant,

DANIEL PITKIN

N. B. The News of Generall Gate Defeat may be relyed on as fact.

JOHN ROGERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir, Providence, 19th September, 1780.

ON the presumption of your intentions to remit some Bills to Europe this Fall I take this opportunity to inform you I purpose going in 6 or 8 weeks myself. My plan is at present to go to France and negotiate my Bills, as that cannot be accomplish'd in Holland without 10 per Ct. discount, whereas there is only 4 or 5 in France, and proceed by Land with the Cash to Amsterdam where I expect to lay it out, unless there shou'd be previously a Treaty of peace on foot between this Continent and Great Britain, in which case I shall proceed

immediately to England from the assurance of laying in Goods to greater advantage, particularly Hard Ware of all kinds. I purpose shipping my own Effects for St. Eustatia, if I purchase in Amsterdam and the War continues, but those of my Employers shall be punctually laid in and ship'd agreeable to their directions. if it is your inclination to ship any Bills by me, I shall be happy Sir, in being honor'd with your Commands and will execute the same to the best of my knowledge on as reasonable terms as any person and flatter myself you will not think me incapable, as I have serv'd 12 or 14 years in that particular branch of Business which was always my delight to aspire after a perfect knowledge of the same, and have the vanity to think I have acquir'd it to as great a degree as most Young Fellows educated in that line.

Your mentioning and recommending me to those Gentlemen in the Mercantile Line in Newport who you think probable wou'd send any Bills and any Letters of Recommendation you can consistent with your own feelings give me to Merchants either in France, Holland, or England, will lay me under the greatest obligations and it is not improbable if only to the latter kingdom, be of infinite service to me. French Bills can now be procur'd at 55 for one or 20 per Ct. under par; permit me to recommend them as the best thing now to purchase on the principle of speculation as I am well convinc'd they will be nearly at Par in a very few weeks. Any of your favours in the operation of this my intended Tour will be gratefully acknowledg'd by Dear Sir Your affectionate Friend and very humble Servant

JOHN ROGERS

AGREEMENT FOR EXPORTING FLOUR[1]

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN of Newport having assign'd and indorsed over to Ebenezer Gracy of Darby in Connecticut as his agent, his Permission from Governor Trumbull of s'd Connecticut, to export by water from s'd Darby to

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Newport Two hundred Barrils of Flour for use of the French Army, upon the conditions, viz.

1st. said Gracy promises without chargeing any Commission, to receive from said Champlin by any boat he may ship it, Two hundred and forty Bushels of Salt and see it deliv'd at Darby landing to Mr. Daniel Shearman, of Woodbury, and his Associates as per engagement with Mr. Hinman of said Woodbury and his Associates Fine Wheat Flour well bolted and packed in barrils deliverd at said landing by them at the time of delivering the salt viz. one hundred and one quarter of a hundred Gross Weight, for every bushel of Salt so delivered, said Champlin paying the customary price for the barrils. And ship the said Flour at the lowest Freight to said Champlin, at Newport.

2ndly. what effects said Champlin may consign to said Gracy, (money excepted), to purchase the remainder of the 200. barr's contained in s'd Permission said Gracy shall charge a customary Commission upon the sale.

3dly. What Flour or other articles said Gracy may ship to the adress of said Champlin over and above s'd 200 barr's shall be sold without Commission and the first price of s'd Goods made good to s'd Gracy out of the sales, and the remainder equally divided between said Gracy and Champlin, and any Goods which said Champlin may send to said Gracy for payment of such flour and other goods so shiped, shall be sold without any Commission.

4thly. any Goods shiped by said Gracy for Newport on the joint account of him self and said Champlin; or any Goods shiped by said Champlin to Darby, on the joint account of him self and said Gracy shall be considered at their joint account and risk having due regard to advice rec'd from each other from time to time, and the apparent Danger of the Enemy. Receipts must be taken by each Party at each place at the time of shiping any Goods, on their joint Account to vouch that the same is on their joint account.

CHRIS CHAMPLIN
EBEN'R GRACY

Newport, September 20th, 1780.

Daniel Pitkin to Aaron Lopez [1]

Hartford, 26th Sept'r, 1780.

Dear Sir,

Having an Oppertunity to pay my Respects and as you have formerly desired me to let you know the Markets in Hartford the Exchange for hard Money is 72 Salt hath been sold lately Rock for 4 hard Doll per Bushell, first White Sugar by the Hdd. for 10 Dolls. perhaps on ac't of the Scaircity of Continentale Money may have occasion[ed] a fall on artickle and the plenty of the New Emis[sio]n of State Money which in generall is sleighted by most people. the Scarlet Br'd Cloth will not sute Mrs. White. I am with much Respect Your Humble Obedient Servant,

Daniel Pitkin

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez [2]

Newport, October 5th, 1780.

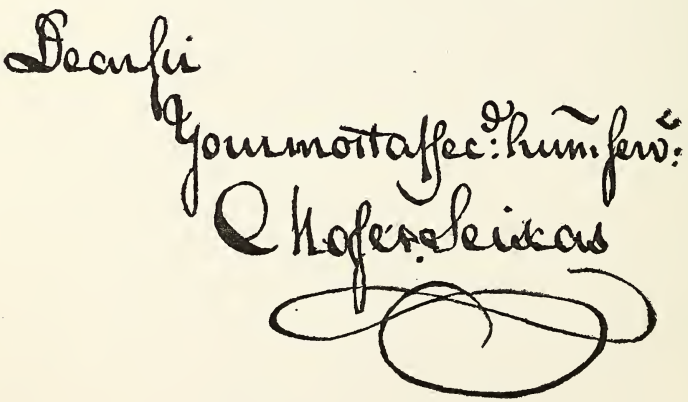
Dear Sir,

By what Mr. Brinley wrote you last week, you'll be inform'd that he had applied to me for money on your order and the result of that application. he this day requested he might have what money I had in hand of yours as he cou'd get it exchang'd for Specia at 70 and saying that he wou'd settle the exchange with you, who he did not doubt wou'd allow it at that. this I judg'd myself not warranted to do and therefore rejected it, but offer'd to let him have it at 60 for one. he accepted my offer and I have paid him seven thousand two hundred Cont. Dollars and taking his rec't for the same, which hope will not be disagreable unto you. Your Currants and Peas remain unsold and have only sold but 2 p'r Breeches at 8 Doll's per p'r. The 3 boxes of Sugar from Smithfield I received last week. that article is so plenty and low now that I see no prospect of getting rid of ours soon, except at a great disadvantage. Mr. Channing again applied for the use of the Synagogue.

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

I availed myself of the impropriety of letting him having it, whilst I had not Mr. Rivera and your sense on the occasion and which had been requested by his and Mr. Merchants desire. Since then Doct'r Stiles is come here on a Visit, and I made it my business to converse with him on the matter. he express'd much concern and amazement at the application, assur'd me it wou'd not have been made had he been here, that he was well convinc'd we cou'd not acceed to it, without violating our religious principles, and that all that lay in his power shou'd be done to remove any unfavorable impressions that a refusal might create amongst his congregation, and on the whole express'd a very friendly feeling for us. notwithstanding all which I think it highly necessary that both you and Mr. Rivera furnish me with your Opinion respecting the matter. My Parents, Mrs. Seixas, her Parents, and all my Connection combine with me in wishing you, Mrs. Lopez, Mr. and Mrs. Rivera, Mr. and Mrs. Mendes and every individual of your worthy family the Compliments of the season and am with great Respect,



Doct'r Coninta is not got here yet. I am told he is expected and has been so for these 2 weeks past. his Brewery has fell thro' as his brave Countrymen dont abide unto contracts unless it suits them. Should he come you may rely on my attention to your order. Mr. Hays just now arrived from Phil'a.

Mathew Robinson to Christopher Champlin

Hopewell Farm, October 30th, 1780.

Sir,

Agreeable to the Advice of an ancient Sage of the Eastern part of the World one Solomon to use Prudence and Discretion in our Journey thro' Life, and finding that one Grain of Caution is worth a Pound of Medicine, I am by these Cogitations and some heavy threats on the Face of the Waters driven to suspect that the French may (before I see you again) take a Start and go off; as all things and persons seem startish among us now-a-daies, therefore send this to pray you to apply to the 2 Generals Viomenil at the late Governor Wanton's House for my Clock and Key to wind it up withal (the Key of the door is lost) upon Condition they should at any time of a sudden be going away; and desire you hereby to take it into your Custody and take care of it for me; The other Household Goods I lent them I shall write to our Neighbour Capt. Buckmaster to take charge of, and not trouble you with them. My Regards attend you and Mother Wife and Family, and believe me to be as I am, Sir, Your Friend and humble Servant,

M. Robinson

Paper is scarce.

Nicholas Garrett to Aaron Lopez[1]

Northamton, November the 7, 1780.

Sir,

I have but a moment to wright you concerning our busenness. I have procurd three hundred Bushels of wheat agreeable to your request in your letter at Newport for six and six pence per Bushel. the money must be paid in five or six weeks from this. the Rum and Salt I have disposed of part a hhd Rum for 100 Bushels wheat Salt foer Bushels wheat for one of Salt which is the best Exchange can be made hear at present which I am much deceived in the Exchange

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

but however I have not exchanged but for three hundred Bushels wheat but hope to do better with the rest of the Goods. Salt is plenty and pon the fall Rum is like to be a good articel. this busenness will detain me hear this winter. I shall exert my self to our best advantage in this busenness. flower will be high next sumer. I shall acomplish the hul busenness this winter and git the flower ready to go by warter in the spring. Excuse my horrey. I hope this will find your famely well not forgitting your self. the Teamsters Bills runs away with everey thing. I shall come and see you in foer or five weeks. I should be glad to write you moer poticuler on this sircumstance but have not time.

No more at preasent. I remane your frend and Sarvent,

NICHOLAS GARRATT

JOSEPH AND JOHN ROGERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir, Providence, 1st December, 1780.

. . . . . .

You may be assur'd our Jno. R. will obtain Recommendatory Letters in the fullest manner from Gentlemen of Influence in this State, particularly from the first Magistrate for one, to Doctor Franklin, the greatest American public Character in Europe. he has assurances of many Letters to that Gentleman from his Friends and Connections and is sensible of standing at least an equal Chance, in the procuring a sett of papers to proceed to England to use in case of Emergency. he has no Expectations if Application is made of procuring a permitt from the Authority of this Continent or State for such a procedure unless under such restrictions as to render the plan very inconvenient, those who have already accomplish'd getting English Goods in, have had no Authority from this Continent for the same, believe they have either proceeded without any other but British papers, or procur'd additional ones from Doctor F. Our J. R. purpose conversing with the Governor and see you in Newport with the other Gentlemen and discuss the Mat-

ters fully at which time wish Matters may be so far determin'd with you as to draw some final Conclusions.

We are Sir Your most Obedient and very humble Servants,

Jos. and Jno. Rogers

Daniel Crommelin and Sons to Aaron Lopez

Amsterdam, the 18 Xber., 1780.

Sir:

We beg you'll be referr'd to the prefix'd 3d Copy of our last respects under date of the 9th November. have now to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed favors of the 25 September 4, 5 and 10 October: their various contents we have duly noted; but the want of time does not permit us at present to enter into all their particulars; so shall only mention you the most necessary of what offers.

On the receipt of your said letters by which you ordered us to get £1500. Insurance on your 4 Casks of Indigo per Capt. Haydon; we had the same covered tho' with much difficulty at 35 per Ct. and for which your account has been debitted vizt.

£1500 at 35 per Ct.		£525. –.–
Policy	£2. –.–	
Commission ½ per Ct.	7.10.–	9.10.–
		£534.10.–

about five days after we had effectuated said Insurance we had the agreeable account of the *Juno* Capt. Haydon's safe arrival at the Flee; he is come up since and has delivered us your four Casks of Indigo; with which we shall do the needful; by him we have also receiv'd the Copy's of your favors unto the 4th October.

We have sold your Pearl Ashes from 60 to 90 St. but the mayor part at the last price; and your Indigo at 68 St. which is a very high price for Carolina Indigo.

When opportunity offers we shall send you the Tea and pins you've desired. We remain very Respectfully, Sir: Your most Obedient Servants,

Daniel Crommelin and Sons

David Lopez, Jr., to Aaron Lopez

Dear and Honored Sir, Providence, January 2d, 1781.

I had the honor by return of the Teamsters last friday to acknowledge with brevity receipt of your most esteem'd and kind favor of the 26th ulto. the late hour at which they arrived deprived me the pleasure of replying to its contents so fully as it required; I then proposed to improve this days post for that purpose, but recolecting since, that other teams will probably be forwarded this week with the remainder of the Flour for Mr. Breck, whose return will not much exceed the arrivall of the post at Leicester, have deliberated to anticipate their Comming and make one of them the bearer of this. permit me, my dearest Sir, to reiterate with a heart felt gratitude, the sincere acknowledgments that so justly is due for your great benevolence in negotiating a plan for my Establishment, which I esteem so beneficial; and in which, your most excelent and liberal heart, I am fully convinced was purely actuated from motives of benignity towards me. this additional instance joined to the many and repeated marks of your goodness, and favour, which from my youth upwards I have experienc'd at your benevolent hands, claims more than the fullness of my heart, or my pen can express, binds me for ever by the strongest ties of gratitude and affection, which to my latest day will continue indelibly engraved in my mind, and which the study of my life shall be to evince the sincerity of by acceptable actions.

I have conformable to your instructions this day address'd Mr. Hastings on the subject; assuring him of my ready assent to the proposed connection; but not being apprised the particulars that has passed between your honored self and him (which I refer'd him to) and wishing to have the concurrent advice of my benevolent patrons in this important affair, which their great benignity has so far led them to promote and transact; I assum'd the liberty of proposing to him our meeting at Leicester whenever it would prove

convenient to him, for the purpose of closing the Contract; and shall on receiving his reply, endeavor to be on the spot a few days before the appointed time to consult your honored selves on the subject.

Respecting the propositions agitated to our friend Benson upon considering his seeming indifference and slow determination, I cannot but readily confess the judicious propriety of your Observations and conduct thereon, and join in prefering this new Connection. the advantage of an excelent stand; the income of the Post office; the difference of Stock in Trade; added to the high oppinion you entertain of the person, and its being a plan dictated by your benevolent self, combine to render it to me more agreeable and pleasing, and raise my highest gratitude to its blessed author. I pray indulgent heaven may in a tenfold measure reward the goodness of your liberal Soul, conceed your every blessing its bountifull hand is capable of dispencing, or that can tend to render you as truely happy as the fervent wishes of my gratefull heart: may it inspire me with its devine guidance to trace the paths of your inimitable footsteps, that thereby I may prove a pious observer of its devine precepts, an ornament to society, and an honor to a Name which by the wisdome and rectitude of your virtuous principles, is render'd so highly respected throughout the Land.

I note with pleasure your approbation, on the sale of the 3 Barrells Beef, and cannot but still repeat my regret at the unfortunate alteration in the price of the Salt, which did not come to hand untill Thursday last; I was not insensible kind Sir of the motives that induced you to address me that article, and shall gratefully endeavor to render its sales as favourable to your interest as posible; at present the season being over for the demand, and the adventurers from Nantucket having crouded in such quantitys, the markets are greatly overstock'd, yet I hope some means will offer by which I shall be enabled before my removall to put of what I have on hand. Mr. Young has still by him, and complains sadly at his hard luck, but promises with Bacon to discharge their Bills in a day or two when I will improve the first safe

hand to forward that amount with what other money I may have for your account to Mr. Sears of Boston. The sundries for our mutual friend Seixas are ship'd to him by a carefull person. I wish they may reach his hands in safety, and meet an advantageous vent. the half barrell with the few goods for my account came in good order, proved right and are passed to your Credit in conformity, for your kind attention to which I beg you will be pleased to accept the Tribute of my best thanks. among them I find three peices Silk of which no mention is made; I presume they must have been intended for our friend Moses, and escaped your mind, to give me directions to forward them. I shall enquire of him by the first Boat wither they are missing in his Invoice. should they be otherways designed on receiving your orders, they shall be faithfully attended to. I hope the Hhd. Rum, with the Barrel Coffee transmitted by return of the Teams reached you in good order. I have only an ullage Cask of Spirits, which as it now becomes scarce flatter myself will command a speedy and good sale. The Coffee continues moving off slowly by the hundred etc. at 57/ per Ct. I have about five or 6 Ct. left that am in expectation of finishing in the course of this week at same rate. there is also one hhd. New England Rum, the price of which having continually since its receipt been under your stipulated orders, still remains without a prospect of its arriving thereto. they are now selling at 4/3, therefore it must attend your further pleasure. Tea is also selling as low as 5/8 which will prevent my obtaining the prefix'd price for the Chest received from Boston. I have not at present any empty Casks, or the Teams should have carried them, if those from Newport reach here in time for the next Conveyance I will with pleasure attend your orders to forward them on.

I am with the truest Sentiments of duty gratitude and esteem, very respectfully, Dear Sir, Your ever gratefull and obedient Nephew,

David Lopez, Junior

Josiah Hewes to Aaron Lopez

Philadelphia, 8 January, 1781.

Sir,

Last post I was favoured with yours of the 22d ulto. and this day, with that of the 29 ulto., contents observed.

My last was of the 27 ulto. by Colonel Peck of Providence, by whome I sent a bill for 400 dollars, I purchased of the Commissioner of Loans, on Doctor Benj'n Franklin, Minister at the Court of Versails, at 90 days sight Exchange at 75 for 1, to your Debit 30.000 dollars, allso an Intrest bill for 42 dollars Exchange 6/3 in Solid Coin £13.2.6. Col. Peck gave me a Receipt for said bills, to deliver them to your Store keeper, or Agent in Providence, and tould me he expected to sett of next day, but was detained several days after, and will likely be detained at Camp a day or two. I mention this, as this letter may come to hand as soon, or sooner than the bills, the post being twice robed of his Male, and no other oppertunity offering, thought it most prudent to send the bills by Colonel Peck a Gentleman well recommended from Providence. I had applyed to Mr. Holker on his return to this City, he could not draw; I indeed took every step to lay out your Money in bills, had often applyed at the Loan office, and had the officers promise to let me know if any bills came. on the 15 ulto. he sent for me, and tould me Congress had sent him a few bills of 400 dollars to sell and that they had all been applyed for. I was a witness that the bills ware immediately taken up, tho at 90 days and 75 for 1 but as he had promised I might have one or two, I took but one fearing if I bought more, they would not answer and now am extreamly glad I took no more, and sorry I took that but it is too late to repent, and hope you will think I did intend for the best. When I receved yours of the 22d ulto. I supposed Ben Seixas and Co'y had a bill on me, and would present it, but hearing nothing from them, I this morning waited on them to know if they had not a bill on me, they tould me they ware to receve such sums of me, but they expected 100 dollars in Solid Coin. you mentioned as much as would purchase it which I offered them. they

sayed they would try to purchase the 100 dollars and call on me. thus we parted. the post did not come in til this evening, when I receved yours of the 29 ulto. as above. I find you mention £37.10 in Solid Coin and refering me to your last. I had not time again to wait on those Gentlemen, least should miss the post but will to morrow and if they have not purchased the Solid Coin as mentioned will pay them 100 hard Dollars and as soon as posable remit you the ballance of 10.320 dollars in my hands takeing out the £129 you mention which will be more for your Intrest than buying Gold at 100 for 1 which is the case here tho' a severe Law lately past, that no more than 75 shall be given, which is the lowest price any bills can be had for here. Should I send bills by post shall observe your directions. have not time to add by this post but as soon as can get a bill on Boston or an oppertunity to send the Cash will again wait on you. Mean time am Most Sincerely yours,

Josiah Hewes

P[rice] C[urrent.] flour s. fine 140£ Common 115£ bread 100£ Beef 550£ Pork 750£ Jam'a Rum £42.10 Windwar[d] £34 Raw Sugars £400 to £440 Havana box Sugars 10 to 11 dollars per lb. Coffee 16 dollars Loaf Sugar 26 to 28 dollars Melasses 22 to 25£ Pimento £20 falling has been £30 Tobacco 125£ to 150£ as in quallity wheat £30 Indian Corn £15 Russia duck 750£ Cordage 750£ whale oil 75 to 80£ tanners oil £75 per Gal. bohea tea £35 bills of Exchange 75 and 76 for Specie 6/3 to 6/6 on London 50 per Ct. Specie.

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez

Newport, January 12th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Last friday I had the pleasure of receiving your acceptable favor of the 26th Ulto. to the Contents of which have duly attended. the Goods specified in Invoice No. 5 came to hand in good order, but am sorry to inform you that nothing is sold therefrom but the spectacles, spoons and Ink pots, as the shopkeepers have become fearful of purchaseing by reason of Goods daily arriveing from all Quarters and sold

in general Cheaper the next day than they was the days before, neither have I been able to sell any more Baizes, which I attibute to the mildness of the Season. Flour is contrary to every Opinion hitherto found amazingly plenty, the nominal price for cash is 5½ dollars but I dare say it may be bought for 5, oweing to the large Quantities that are daily comeing in and the little demand there is for it. the French buy at 7 and pay in Bills at parr. at the going price that they give I make no doubt but I cou'd get them to take yours, as their Treas: General who is the drawer of their Bills quarters with us and has promised to assist me in the disposal of any Articles that I might want to sell unto them. Pepper is sold at 5/6 L. Mo. by the dozen at which rate have sold about 40 [ ] of yours, Nutmegs 5 dollars, Cinnamon 6, in short every thing is very plenty, low and dull. The 9th Current Captain Story paid me for the Baizes and Hairbines and on that day I paid Charles Handy (who is very ill), Two hundred pounds Law: Money on your Account, thinking it better to let Mr. Brinley tarry untill next week for his money, which suits him as well. Handy paid me for the pepper which you sent him which please to note. the Ginger you sent Mrs. Hunter will not sell at any rate which is a great disappointment. She will be glad of a small Cask that is good. I thank you for the information respecting my Brother Hiam.[1] it is beyond a doubt to me that there must have been Letters from him unto his Wife and me and that he imprudently sent them without putting them under Cover of some friend and that some Villian has intercepted them besides my having no Letter even from Messes. Crommeline in answer to what I wrote them convinces me that it must be so. I this day send your empty Casks unto my good friend D. Lopez, as at foot. I have also sent 2 Keggs Cosher Tallow, which as I had no scales handy, I beg the favor of you to weigh and inform me the weight. it cost 6*d* Sterling *li.* rough which

[1] Benjamin Mendez Seixas and his wife Zipporah Levy had sixteen children, of whom Moses was the eldest, born in 1780. Hyman L. Seixas was born 1793.

suppose brings it at 8*d.* tried. I have also sent your Good Lady's pickle pot, but we take shame to ourselves that after detaining it so long, now to return it empty, not so much as a bitt of Fish to be had to put in it. I forwarded your Letter unto Mr. Robinson, and a few days after he came to Town. inclosed you have his reply. I cannot at present write my much esteem'd friend Mr. Rivera, but if I might presume to advise him, it shoud be that Mr. Robinson be obliged to take the Bill up and give his note for the Amount and not let it lay in the manner it now does. A few days ago, I run the prong of a sharp fork into my right thumb which makes it very sore and painfull and can hardly hold a pen. you'll therefore be pleas'd to excuse this scrawl and the brevity which I use in replying to your favor. My Mother, Mrs. Seixas and all friends unites with me in usual Salutations, and am Respectfully, Dear Sir, Your most Affectionate humble Servant,

MOSES SEIXAS

JONATHAN HASTINGS, JR. TO AARON LOPEZ [1]

Boston, 15th February, 1781.

Dear Sir,

THE following is an Extract of Mr. Green's Letter relative to the Shop: "Your favor of the 25 Ulto. came to hand yesterday containing some further proposals which simply considered I would entertain no unfavourable Opinion of them, nor am I unwilling to extend the time as you desire on the condition mentioned of wanting it myself; and therefore in order to comply with your Request, say, that I wo'd confirm your Expectation of the three years from the last Settlement (on the above Condition,) at the rate of £40 per year (in quarterly payments as usual) as I suppose you do and I should in other times look upon it as a sufficient Offer: but tho' I have given an answer as I have, yet I shall still leave it to your further Consideration whether considering the superior advantages of Scituation etc. etc. and the rate

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society. Lopez had gone to Philadelphia.

others are now set at and only let, or the price fixed quarterly, whether it ought not to be something more. this I can assure you I could have had a great deal more had I hearkned to the proposal, but I rest this intirely in your own Breast, after making any proper Inquiry to satisfy yourself about it. I have wrote as I have to save time, depending you will not let me, as I am perswaded you would not be willing that I should be a sufferer by the Bargain, as we cant transact at this distance altogether as if I was present, which being the needfull on the subject I remain yours" — thus he:

Tho' Mr. Green has been very prolix, yet it is beyond my Expections of having so definitive an answer, which for him is exceeding full, and sufficient in my opinion to engage it me for 3 years at £40 per ann. this is also his Brother Edward's mind on the matter.

The inclosed is the prices current

New England Rum	45 dollars	Dry Goods of the best quality.	2½ for 1.
W. I. . . do. . .	80 do.	Bills on France	54.
Sugar in Barrell . .	600 do.	Hard	75.
Coffee.	8 do.	Port Wine	3/6 hard.
Tea	70 do.	Iron	£200 per C.
L. Sugar	16 do.	Steel	18 do. per *li.*
Cotton wool . . .	23.	Iron and Steel fall rapidly.	

We have accounts from the West Indies of great Success, of which the inclosed paper will inform you, of the Ships and Transports taken by Count De Estaing's Squadron.

You know my haste on Post Mornings, must therefore conclude that I am yours sincerely,

Jon'a Hastings, jun.

[On the outside of the letter:] Just arrived a Confirmation of C. D. Estain[g's] Success of the Western Islands, by a Vessell arrived at Dartmouth, which left Martinico after one of the Count's Ships had arrived there. 7 Capital Ships are taken and 45 Transports only.[1]

[1] "Ever since you left Boston Goods have been falling. Vendue offices opening every week much to the disadvantage of the shopkeeper." *Jonathan Hastings, Jr., to Aaron Lopez*, February 26, 1781. Ms.

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez

Newport, February 18, 1781.

Dear Sir,

The next day after I rec'd your favour of the 22d Ulto. I sold your flour for the use of the French forces at 7 dollars per Cwt. payable in their bills at par, and altho nothing has been wanting on my part to compleat the matter before this, yet the tedious manner of their purchasers has prevented the same being effected, for even now I am waiting for the bills. the Quantity sold was 35 Casks (in which is included the 2 specified in Invoice No. 6) which weigh'd here 96.3.20 Nt. so that it fell short 1.0.7 from what you sent it at. notwithstanding this sale being so disadvantageous, yet you may depend the purchase was made to oblige me. I am very sorry that your Baizes will not sell here, and of the damage that has accrued unto you by their being here, but I cannot help it. every effort of mine has been exerted (equally the same as if they were my own) to facilitate the sale of them. the same has likewise been extended unto every other Article of yours that remains on hand, and it wou'd give me much pleasure cou'd I inform you of any Capital ones being sold, but there is no forceing a market here. The 22d Ulto. I took up your draft in favor Mr. Brinley. you ask me my Advice respecting the debt due unto you from Mr. Robinson, which is to compel him to give you a Mortgage on his Farm if it is unincumber'd, for I am firmly of Opinion that neither you nor Mr. Rivera will get any payment in England, nor money from him. I have repeatedly by Mr. Rivera's desire reminded Geo: Tabor of the promise that he made unto you of paying me some money on Account of his arrears unto you. he tells me of disappointments etc. but promises that it shall not be long now before he pays some. I have the pleasure of my Friend D. Lopez's Company. he was here when he received yours from Boston dated 30th Ulto. and show'd me the paragraph therein directed unto me, and to which I have paid all due attention. as I have no favorable Opinion of your speculation in french Bills at Phila-

delphia, knowing that the Treasurer General sent his Clerk there a few weeks ago on purpose to negociate Bills to a large Amount, I therefore did not think it prudent to retake any money from Charles Handy for to purchase bills with, nor to pay your order unto John Carter. the latter I effected the 13th Inst. by adding some of my money unto some of yours that I had in hand. hope my determination may prove agreable. I have open'd your Crate of Cream Col. ware the Cups are soo large that they are rather unsaleable and the Quantity falls short. the Brandy that D. Lopez sent was so very low that I have been glad to get rid of it at 7/6 L. My. per Gallon. some Flour of an equal Quality to that which was contain'd in the hhds. that weigh'd 8 Cwt. wou'd sell at $5\frac{1}{2}$ dollars, and I do suppose I cou'd get a Quantity off among the Mons. for their Bills at the price that they give.

The attention that I was necessarily oblig'd to give unto my Sister Bilhah Levy during her sickness, her death, the want of an Opportunity unto Leicester, the supposition of your being gone forward and on your journey to Philadelphia all combin'd to prevent my writing you untill now, which I hope will find you safely arrived at Philadelphia in good health. this moment the bills for the amount of the flour are brought me and inclosed you have the first and second bills of two setts, one sett for 2400 Livers, and the other for 1162.2.6. the other remainder of the setts shall send tomorrow unto you at Philadelphia by the post as it appears obvious unto me that it is there you want them. Accept the kind salutations of my Mother, Mrs. Seixas, and of, Dear Sir, Your most affectionate humble Servant,

Moses Seixas

Josiah Hewes to Aaron Lopez

Dear Sir, Philadelphia, 13 February, 1781.

I am this minute favored with yours of the 2d Inst. encloseing four Setts of Exchange vizt. No. 59 for 400 dollars No. 312 for 600 dollars No. 52 for 5901 livers, and No. 35

for 3801 livers, those being the first bills of each sett would be glad the others ware allso come. have jest sold the 600 dollar bill at 72½ for one, and am in hopes to obtain that for the others except the 90 day bill, which will gladly take 70 for, as bills are falling here, will sell as soon as posable on the terms you mention, giveing time to collect the Continental or York State money. Could soon sell them for Penna. State paper, but fear could not readaly change it.

I note the whole of your letter, but the post comeing in so late and going out again allmost immediately have not time so fully to answer you as could wish, but will send you a few lines to fish kill next post. Se price current and believe me most sincerely yours

JOSIAH HEWES

P[rice] C[urrent] flour 120£ windward rum £32 Jamaica ditto £45 Molasses £22.10 to £24 Raw Sugars £350 to 400£ loaf do. £9. to 10£ Coffee 16 dollars Chocolat 18 dollars pepper 98 dollars Nutmeggs 500 dollars bohea tea 90 Dollars plenty Dry goods or rather European Goods what cost 1 liver in france about 30 Dollars Irish linnens that cost 1/ Sterling about 3/ to 3/6 State paper Specie at 75 for 1 Gold not to be purchased under 100 to 110 for 1.

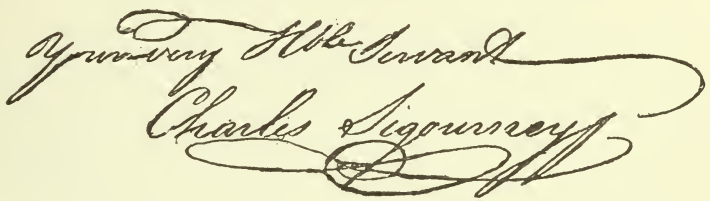
CHARLES SIGOURNEY TO AARON LOPEZ

Amsterdam, March 6th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

THE Arrival of your Goods at Marstrand from Amsterdam, just as I had got the *Rambler* ready to clear out, and the many avocations which then took place, prevented my taking out my Letter to you, to *add*, your Goods were come to hand and shipd. Since which I have the agreeable satisfaction to hear of the safe arrival of the Ship with you, and hope you've received 'em free of any damage. I have to acquaint you of the arrival of the Indigo and Pearl Ashes here, which came in the *Rambler*, but on examining them found two barrells fill'd with Coarse Sand instead of Pearl Ashes. I cannot think it could possibly have been done on board the *Rambler*, as so gross an Embezzlement could not but have

been discovered by some of the Officers. I have wrote several Letters to Mr. Ekstrom of Marstrand about it (under whose care it was stored) and have received for answer that he does not believe it was done while the Goods were under his Care; and he can do nothing about it. Messrs. Crommelin's have had the deposition of the Dutch Captain taken, wherein he declares it was not done on board his Vessel. We have taken every method to find out the iniquity, but without the least prospect of Success. Please to accept my sincere thanks for your polite letter to those Gentlemen, from whom I've receiv'd every mark of Civility. am with all due esteem and respect



George Hayley to Christopher Champlin

London, 6th March, 1781.

Sir,

I am favoured with yours of the 17th December, by which have the pleasure of seeing that the Goods sent you via Amsterdam were safe arrived, and enclosing a Memorandum for more to be sent thro' the same Channel which should have been immediately complied with, but unhappily we are now engaged in a Dutch War and of course all communication between this Country and Holland is shut up.[1] I am therefore under the necessity of deferring the execution of this order till I have your further instructions. Your demand on Mr. Brymer is in a disagreeable situation. He has paid the whole money into the Court of Chancery, from whence it will be difficult for him or any body else to recover

[1] The goods were shipped to Amsterdam, through De Neufville and Son, in the *Lady Elizabeth*, Captain Doorn.

it. If it is possible for you to settle it on your side the Water, I would recommend your doing so. I am etc.

GEORGE HAYLEY

JONATHAN HASTINGS, JR. TO AARON LOPEZ

Boston, 7th March, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I AM happy to inform you that I have committed the letter for Daniel Crommelin and Sons to the Care of Mrs. Ingram who expects to sail very soon for Holland. She has engaged to take due care of it.

Since you left Boston a quantity of Spices has arrived in the Ship *Mars*, 11 ll. of Nutmegs, 11 do. of Cinnamon, 11 do. of Cloves and 4 do. of Mace, are offered me at 30/. a pound, french weight, which I suppose is 10 per cent difference. I did not chuse to engage them untill I had your advice. I have sincerely repented that I was so inattentive to your Offer of sending the Nutmegs to Philadelphia. But I must live and learn.

Your two Nephews left this place last Lord's-day. I expect a line from them this Evening per post. Mr. Benjamin Hammett has just given me a letter for you directed at Leicester, which I shall accordingly inclose to your Son Joseph to do with it as he shall think proper.

The prices current are much the same as when you left Boston. Except the article of Rum which is on the rise. Goods are sold at Auction lower than what they sold for before the War. The Court have now limited the number to six only.

I refer you for News to the inclosed paper of the day.

March 8. The post arrived and no letter from Leicester. I am, dear Sir, yours sincerely

JONATHAN HASTINGS, JUN.

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez

Leicester, March 16th, 1781.

Dear and Honored Sir,

Your last esteem'd favor under date of 30th January I had the pleasure to receive while at Newport, where the prospect of disposing of my few remaining Goods prompted me to go; in which plan I have the sattisfaction to tell you I succeeded, tho' not equall to my expectations; my greatest Object being those Goods bought with your honored self of John Brown. they were such as were much wanted, and would have commanded a reasonable profit, but the advantage that the Company of Powers and Rogers had in their purchace of those same articles, enabled them to offer theirs at what mine cost, and their want of Cash dispos'd them also to improve every opportunity of availing thereof. this being the case, with the continual and progressive fall at the eastward, I deliberated to content myself with very light Gains, and after continuing there 4 weeks, with much assiduity and pains I brought the greatest part of them to neat me from 10 to 15 [per] Ct. profit, with the advantage of the Solid Coin for their proceeds. I have a few still remaining which have left in the hands of our friend Seixas, who am in hopes will be able to put them of at same rate. having while there an offer of 8/ per Gallon for the residue of your Jamaica Rum being 46 Gallons, I thought proper to accept it, as also for what I had of my own, which hope will prove pleasing.

On my return to Providence I was call'd upon by Jno. Brown to enquire in what manner you had order'd his Note to be discharg'd, the term of which had then expir'd 10 days, and his call for moneys being very urgent I ventured to place in his hands 90 hard Dollars, the sum I was in Cash for your account and have the pleasure since my arrival here to find it conformable to your wishes. Mr. Francis Brinley having occasion for some paper Currency, I also supply'd him for your account £189 at 72 for one for which have taken his receipt for £2.12.6 Silver Lawful money. My last

respects to you inclosd Invoice of what Goods I had retain'd for my own account from those bought of Jno. Brown amounting to £92.17.7¼ with a minute of the moneys delivered you on account and a particular State of that affair, by which there appears a ballance in my favor 2/4¾. your last favor which was some time after this cover'd an Invoice form'd at this place without any reference to mine amounting to £103.19.4¾.

I have question'd Cousin Moses respecting his comparing them particularly with the originall Invoice who assures me he did it with much deliberation and accuracy. *I* can also say with safety that my account is free from error, having compared, examin'd, and re-examind what I retaind before moving a single article from my Shop. therefore the deficiency must have arisen in receiving them from Jno. Browns. I shall in consequence after having again compared my account with Moses, apply to him, that it may be rectified. Just at my arrivall here this day week I found my dear Aunt closing her Letter to you, in which I requested her to tender my respectfull and affectionate Salutations, and to advise you [of] the sudden rise of Foreign Bills, from 52 to 60 for one, being occasion'd by the arrival of a sum of Money to the french in a Frigate into Boston, which intelligence I hope will reach you in time to profit thereby in what you have on hand. I have this moment received a line from Moses Seixas under date of the 8th Current, wherein he tells me they were not to be had at Newport for less than 60. I am sorry the prospect of your Tea Speculation does not promise a more favourable result.

May Heaven prosper your wishes and undertakings, and return you again in Safety, are the fervent prayers of, My dear Sir, Your gratefull and affectionate Nephew

David Lopez, Junior

Joseph Gardoqui and Sons to Aaron Lopez

Bilbao, the 22d March, 1781.

Sir,

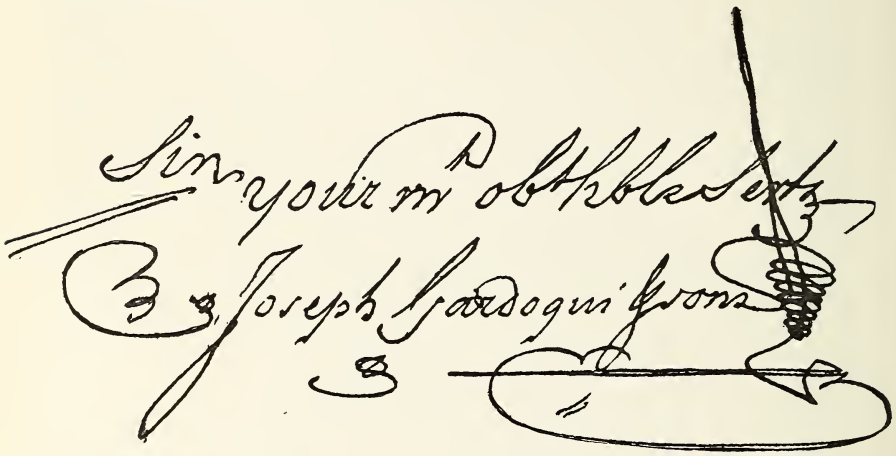
We gladly embrace this very agreable and wish'd for opportunity to acknowledge ourselves indebted to your exteemed favours of the 18th and 20th December last and after a due returne of our most sincere thanks to our worthy and mutual freind Mr. Tracy for his kind recommendation of this our House to your good self have to informe you that your two remmittances on Paris for Livers 5313 and 1312 have duelly reached our hands therefore haveing been punctually forwarded by us for acceptance should they as we hope, meet with no demmour in their discharge your Account with us will be creditted at the actuall Exchange of 78 souls per every current dollar of 18 riales and 2 maravedies [1] with riales 20514 and 25 ms. for the former and with riales 5065 and 32 ms. for the latter boath which Sums if right be pleased to place to our debitt.

We have taken due and proper memorandum of the orders you are pleased to committ to our care and in full hopes of your placing in our hands per the vessells destined to this port sufficient funds for the purpose we willingly agree to ship on your account the full compleament of your orders for Hand Kerchiefs in the first four vessells that may saile from hence to your or any of your neighbouring ports. Accordingly we now transmmitt you herein Invoice and bill of loading of your first adventure shipt on the Schooner *Success* Captain Philipe Trask bound to Newbury ammounting to rs. 20514 and 25 ms. of Vellon which beg you would order to be examined and if free from Errors place the same to our Creditt. We very cordially wish the Bearer a prosperous Nevigation home when doubt not that you will reape a very agreable profit in your returns as have paid the required reggard and attention boath to quality and price as such flatter ourselves with the pleasing hopes of keeping up with your good self a very lasting and mutually beneficiall Cor-

[1] An imaginary coin, of which seventeen were reckoned to a rial vellon.

respondence. Our Insurers are retired to such a degree that since the Warr they have hardly oppned a Policy therfore we are firmly assured that even if we were to offer them 45 per Ct. they would not insure from hence to America as such be pleased to effect it with you.

Hope soon to be able to pay our respects to you mean while saluteing you respectfully subscribe with Esteem,



Josiah Hewes to Aaron Lopez

Philadelphia, 24 April, 1781.

Mr. Aaron Lopez,

I WROTE you pretty fully with price current, and on the 21st Inst. I wrote you by Mr. Benj'n Seixas who left this the 22d for Newport. by him I sent you 32.000 dollars for two barrels pepper I sold at 130 dollars per lb. being offered that price the day before all in Continental Money and so good an opportunity of sending it immediately induced me to sell, tho could got sumwhat more in State money which I could not change. for further perticulars refer you to mine by Mr. Seixas. Late on Saturday Evening I received from Mr. Ellison the other three Chest of tea and two Barrels pepper for which paid freight 2500 dollars. this was brought me by Peter Mason waggon'r who informs me he received it about the 19 ulto. (the date of Mr. Ellisons letter) but that

when he got home to Eastown about 55 Miles from this was pressed in to the Continental Service sum weeks which prevented his bringing it sooner. it came, apparently in good order, except the out side Caskes a little shattered, the barrels are full etc. I am last evening favoured with yours of the 13th Inst. covering fourth bill of a Sett of Exchange for 300 dollars. your Letter from Fishkill I have never received, that no doubt it went into york as informed you last post. for want of the first bill cannot sell them. Neither have I your orders for selling. there is no Vessel here for Europe, or should wrote the Commissioners at parris hope are this you have had an oppertunity of writeing them to prevent payment of the first bill. should be glad to hear from you on this head etc. I am very happy I have so well hit your judgment respecting the Tea. I have the six Chest on haveing refused all offers for it being clear it would soon bring 10/ Specie. it is dayly riseing, and I am well informd there is no orders gone for Tea, to Europe, a long time that it will soon be very scarce. My Neighbour tels me he has 5 Chests which he holds at 12/6 Specie per lb. the pepper I thought was nearer the Mark at 130 dollars, tho I observe I quoted it at 150 in my last which was the retail price. the two barrels on hand shall keep with the tea, til further orders. I note your intention of sending an other load on which is verey agreable; price of Ginger se price current.

I observe you failed in Boston, of laying out the Money on our joint account in Specie. Should you not be able to do it at Newport, think bills will answer here shortly, as the holders of them seem determined to get them up to 6/ and 6/6 Specie. I am once more pleased with my own Judgment in not chainging your Specie ballance and sending it by Mr. Seixas. Some inteligence I received from Boston soon after you left me, put me on reconsidering that matter, when I thought best to wait til I heard from, and am glad it turns up agreable to you. a Carrage setts out in a few days for Newport, for Mr. Seixas's Mother by which intend forwarding the old Acct.

Mr. Samuel Johnson a perticular friend of mine is here in Congress from Edenton North Carolina. on acquainting him a friend of mine desired me to inquire after him he immediately guest it was you saying Mr. Polock had often mentioned you to him etc. he expects to leave this about the last of May for home, and said if you choose to forward any letters he could at any time give them safe conveyance, which he would do with pleasure. the three fifty dollar bills will endeavour to get exchange, and carry to your Credit. we have had a great arrival from the Havannah, Martinico etc. say 10 or 12 Sail small Vessells. they have brought a vast quantity Coffee which has fell the price of that article to 20 dollars and will be lower. this being at present the needfull am most Sincerely yours

JOSIAH HEWES

Price Current. bills at 110 for 1. Specie 170 for 1. Tea 8/ riseing, Ginger 35 dollars. most kind of Goods rise with the money except Coffee, tho but little odds since my last.

[Memo.] N. B. on the 4th May ordered him to stop the sale of the Bill.

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

[Amsterdam,] 25th Aprill, 1781.

Sir,

THE Copy preceding is what we had the honor of addressing you per the *Mars*, which we hope got safe to hand. We have since to acknowledge your esteemed favours of 19 and 28th December 4. 9 and 22d January last. we duly received inclosed per the same your sundry Remittances vizt.

per 19th Dec.	£2956: – – 6.	on the Treasurer Gen'l of the Royal Army France.	
28 do.	2544: 6: 8.	Negotiated Exchange at	
4 Jan'y.	8048: – – : –	51½ . . . . . Bco.	£2360: 11: 8
	£13548: 7: 2	Agio 4 p Ct.	94: 8. —
		Tourns which we have Negotiated Exchange at	
		51⅜ . . . . . Bco.	£3445: 11. – –
		Agio 4⅛ p Ct.	142: 2: 8
		For which we have given you Credit in Account in Currency	£6542: 12: –

We have taken due note of your sundry orders contained in the aforementioned but suppose you made a Mistake in quoting us the prices of the China and Tea the best Hyson being higher then 80/. We have shipped your first order per the *Juno* Captain Haydon, and you have herewith bill of Lading and Invoice of said goods amounting to £1740: 1: for which you will please give us Credit in account in Conformity if found free from Error.

Your remaining orders we will expedite by different good Opportunities as you prescribe, as well as the goods when received from Mr. Hayley, which we expect will be sent by some remaining dutch vessell in the Thames, which being there when they published their Manifesto, had since been detained untill it should be known whether we should permit the English Vessells here also to depart, which our States have granted.

We therefore gave directions to Mr. Hayley to avail himself of said Opportunity to ship the goods you had order'd, as our friends in London had done the same, with the like orders for America, adding that we understood the £400 Sterling you order'd us to pay him was on account of the same. Accordingly said Gentleman who before had wrote us it was not in his power to comply with your orders for want of means of conveying the Goods to us, wrote us he would follow our directions and ship them immediately. We shall of course also immediately comply with your Orders by paying the aforesaid sum to said Gentleman and will forward the Goods we receive from him on your Account, as before mentioned. Interim we remain with very great regard, Sir, your most Obedient Humble Servants,

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SONS

P. S. We also shipped per Haydon the white lead amounting to f. 105.13.

Mr. Hayley having sent us the goods for your account as per his inclosed letter of advice, and accounts, we have shipped per the Brigg *Gates*, Captain Newman Two Cases and two Trunks of which we send you Bill of Lading here-

with, also account of Charges on said goods amounting to f. 380: 12: which please to not in our Conformity.

Joseph Gardoqui and Sons to Aaron Lopez

[Bilbao,] the 27th April, 1781.

Dear Sir,

We have the pleasure to hand you above duplicate of our last salutations to you per the Schooner *Success*, Captain Trask, where with haveing forwarded you Invoice and bill of Loading for the Hand Kerchiefs you was pleased to order we flatter ourselves that they will safely reach your hands as we have the satisfaction to informe you that said Vessell departted hence the 25th of March; therefore deprived since of your very agreable and esteemed lines have to transmmitt you herein duplicates of said Invoice and bill of Loading with the agreable Information that your bills on Paris have mett with punctuall Acceptance and that we hope there will be no demmour in their payment at maturity.

As the Brigg *Phenix*, Captain Robert Rentoul, is bound to Sallem we have agreable to your dispositions shipt on her your second adventure, accordingly you will find herein Invoice and bill of loading thereof ammountting to riales 9295 and 25 ms. of Vellon, which request the favour of your ordering it to be examined and if free from Errors to place the same to our Creditt and as she is one of your new Construction fast sailling vessells we fully expect that she will successfully compleatt her Passage in 30 days, when doubt not that the goods by her will come to a very adventadgeous Markett.

The Ship *Commerce*, Captain Ignatius Webber,[1] is also putting up for Boston therefore in order to fullfill your kind orders shall also ship on her on your Account an equall quantity and hope that your next will produce us the reimbursmment of our advances in Expectations whereof have the pleasure to subscribe very respectfully, Sir, your most obedient humble Servants,

Joseph Gardoqui and Sons

[1] In company with the *Commerce* sailed the armed ship *Grand Monarque*, David Coats, master.

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez

Friday, May 11th, 1781.
5 oClock P.M.

Dear Sir,

This moment an Express arrived unto my Bro. Ben from Philadelphia which he left this day week. his errand was to inform my Brother that the Governor and Council there had fix'd that state money equal to 175 for One in Old Continental which had put an entire stop to the Circulation of the Old Continental.[1] My Brother is advis'd that if he cant invest what he had with him to put it into the Treasury, to be diligent and by no means bring it back. this information I thought might be of essential service unto you. therefore have not hesitated to dispatch the Bearer immediately unto you for which am to give him 15 silver dollars, not doubting but that you'll chearfully approve of my intention. My Brother and Mr. Hays got here yesterday from Boston. the Waggon for my Mother is not yet come will be here next week. the Express is a going on to Boston to carry the like information unto Sam: Myers. Excuse this scrawl and accept of the kind salutations of my self and family, and extend the same unto the good ones around you. I am Respectfully, Dear Sir, Your affectionate humble Servant

Moses Seixas

please to tell your good Nephew David that I have his of the 2d Inst. that Jas: Richardson will give 1/6 Sterling li. for heart and Club German Steel. Since the arrival of the french frigate at Boston it has been suggested to me that the payment of the french Bills had been protracted in France. how true this is can't pretend to say.

[1] Writing from Boston, May 24, Jonathan Hastings, Jr., said: "I cannot describe to you my dear Sir, how monstrously the Old money is disregarded, the New has some Credit remaining. The Streets look more like Days devoted to the Worship of the Deity, than Days of Business."

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez

Newport, June 12th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Jacobs handed me your acceptable favor of the 3d current and with pleasure observe that you got well home and found your dear family in good health, as also that my friend David reached you in perfect health, a circumstance that I was very glad to be inform'd of, as was fearful the fatigue of the ride wou'd cause a relapse of his late disorder. I notice that you had rec'd a Letter from Messrs. Crommeline that it was a duplicate of what they had wrote by Haydon and that the Ori[gina]l inclos'd me one from my Brother Hiam, the arrival of which I am very anxious for, as have had no Letter from him since March, 1780, but that wou'd not have been the case had he before availd himself of this safe Channel to convey his Letters unto me. I join with you that no Goods are shipt with Haydon by Messrs. Crommeline for me, but yet the saving disposition of Hiam which is very great, must have induc'd him to commit that matter to an Acq[uaintanc]e for to transact that wou'd do it without any Commission and the Goods may be on board of Haydon, for it is beyond a doubt that Goods were shipt me in November that the Insurance thereon was 5 per Ct. this Sim wrote me in an Open Letter by a flag, in a stile that nobody can understand except myself which I plainly do. I always expected Messrs. Crommeline woud have the shipping any Goods that might be sent me via Holland and the premium of Insurance made me very apprehensive that they were shipt from thence unto Eustatia (contrary to my order), but now I find that Messrs. Crommeline have no knowledge of the Goods by their not mentioning any thing unto you or Mr. Rivera concerning them gives me great hopes that the matter has been conducted as I suggest and that the Goods are on board of Haydon. the only doubt that now remains is whether any Vessell is missing that left Holland since November. If I am disappointed in receiving the Goods God knows what will be the con-

sequences. I have lately had an Opportunity of writing Hiam by a safe and speedy way which is the reason of my not embracing your kind offer to forward my Letters from Boston, but pray do you imagine Letters can be now sent from Holland unto London without being first inspected in Holland. The paper money that I paid Mr. Brinley is included in the payment of your draft in his favor for £100 L. Mo. As soon as am in Cash will pay him the sum you direct. I have only sold about 4 Cwt. of your flour at 5 dollars. Mr. Hunter has not yet taking any. I am of opinion flour will be very dull here now the French Army are gone from hence, all except about 400 which are to remain for the present. Amongst the gone are those which held your House, etc. which was evacuated this Morning. I have been since to take a View of the house but such a collection of straw, dirt, and nastiness, I never before saw in any house that was occupied by any that *profess'd Gentility* and all that they have left poor Margeret towards cleaning it, is about a Cord of Wood. they stript the Garret of about 20 or 30 boards, most of the keys of the Stores they have carried off, with the Shelves and some of the Glass and some Timber from the Wharf. About 2 Weeks ago John Malbone [1] call'd on [me] with a petition (couch'd in decent terms) to sign in your Behalf, unto General Rochambeau for the payment of Rents contracted for, telling me he had some encouragements for adopting that mode. it was signd by all that had any claim on that principle which was several. I got Mr. Taber to sign it in your behalf as the properest person, and it was presented, but without any good effect, as you will perceive by the inclos'd Copy of the General's Reply, which I have just obtain'd. You may depend on having your Account by the next conveyance wou'd have done it by this, but did not imagine Mr. Jacobs wou'd have left so soon. Mrs. Seixas unites with me in affectionate Salutations unto your good self, dear Mrs. Lopez, and family.

[1] Died October, 1795, a merchant and the father of the miniature painter, Edward G. Malbone.

I am with great Respect, Dear Sir, Your affectionate humble Servant,

Moses Seixas

Margeret just now tells me she had 6 dollars left her.

John de Neufville and Son to Christopher Champlin

Amsterdam, June 25th, 1781.

Sir,

Since we wrote what precedes Original of which we send you per the *Juno* Captain Haydon, Duplicate per *Becky and Harriot*, Captain Grinnel, Triplicate per the *Gates*, Captain Newman of Newbury Port, we are favoured with both your favours of 3d February and 1st April last in reply to the first of which we can only say that with respect to the freight the Captain having taken advantage of the times, and at the high terms that goods have been shipp'd we should have thought ourselves happy to have been able to ship more, so few Vessels having been here for the Quantity of goods there was to ship, that they have pick'd the Goods they chose to take in. many they will not take in. for any freight whatever. Yarns we are ask'd 50 per Ct. In short had we not the advantages of having Ships consign'd to us, we fear our friends would have much more room to complain though with as little reason against us, of which they would be satisfied did they know how studious we are in attending to their Interest. when times changes, or we have Vessels to chuse, on board of which we like to ship, they will, as ourselves, have more satisfaction by the expedition of their Orders. and to answer your esteem'd of the first April we find we acted right in the manner we proceeded, with respect to Mr. Hayley, who having sent the Goods as before mentioned, there remains nothing to be said further on that Subject, except that we having divided the goods as nearly as we could guess, (not having any Duplicate or Copy of the Invoice) in three parts the first of which we shipp'd per the brig *Gates* Captain Newman, for Newbury Port, as per our preceeding. the 2d per the Snow *Four*

friends Captain Wm. Gibbons for Boston who goes down tomorrow to our roads, to take also the benefit of the Convoy of a fine frigate of 41 Guns, which part consists in one Bale 1 Trunk and 1 Chest mark'd © the bill of Lading we send also agreeable to your directions to Messrs. Jarvis and Russel, and I inclose herein account of the Charges of f. 102: 1. the Captain chose the freight to be paid in Boston. we left it to be settled accordingly by Messrs. Jarvis and Russel, at the same rate the last was paid of 12½ per Cent. the third and last part we ship'd by the *Robyn* Captain Cazneau, of which we will in time give you also an account that you may credit us accordingly for the Charges. The *Robyn* will probably sail by herself, in 3 or 4 weeks, but as she goes under Neutral Colours, we apprehend the risque by her cannot be great. we have debitted your account for the remittance made Mr Hayley, £400 Stg. exchange 34 R per £ Stg. £4080. Commission ½ per Ct. 20: 8 Brokerage 4., total Currency £4104.8 which after having examin'd if found free from Errors, please to pass in our Conformity. this being all that offers for the present, we remain with particular esteem most truly, Sir, Your most obedient and humble Servants

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON

[Endorsed,] Per *Liberty* Captain Deboer.

MOSES SEIXAS TO AARON LOPEZ

Newport, July 9th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

A FEW days after I received your esteem'd favor of the 19th Ulto. I was so fortunate as to procure a Tenant for your Estate in this Town for the particulars of the Terms, I crave leave to refer you to the inclos'd Agreement, to which I have only to add, that Whitney is a refugee from Charlestown, So. Carolina, a native of Norwich, Connecticut, to whence he now goes to fetch his Wife and 2 Children which with a Brother and Servant composes his family, that he is a sober quiet man, and altho without knowledge, figure,

or address has kept a considerable shop here for this 3 Months past of European Goods which he procures in Boston. he depends on letting the Stores (a small part of which he has already done at the rate of 120 dollars a year) and the advantages ariseing from the Wharff to reduce his Rent, but as the Wharff is in bad order he has requested me to ask your permission for his repairing it, at your cost, only just so, as to make it more convenient than it at present is, which he means to do by laying and securing a few plank on it. I am much pleas'd to find that my Friend David is now fixt in so eligible situation as to afford a promising prospect of success, as he is really a cleaver fellow and one whom I sincerely esteem, I readily unite my sanguine wishes to those of yours for his attainment of Madam Fortunes best favors. Notwithstanding my best endeavours have been exerted to dispose of your Flour of both sorts, I yet find it impracticable, nor does the least probability appear of vending the Rye. Mason and Malbone sold 30 Bbls Wheat flour last week of equal Quality to yours at 3 dollars. My dear Mrs. Lopez may depend on having a reinforcement of Cosher fat as soon as possible, but Mr. Judah's commendable conscience and superlative knowledge of the Bedika[1] has prevented our having any chance as yet to make a begining in procuring some for her. Inclos'd you have your several account sales and hard money account current but it not only has increas'd my sufferings to an enormous degree when I reflect that since February last I have been imperceptiblely making use of your money, but in short it has been my severest trial and mortification. All that I can say in my Vindication, is that even before February I was in daily expectation founded on rational and human probabilitys of receiving succours amply sufficient to answer all my engagements and necessities, but therein I have been most bitterly disappointed, and all that I have now to offer is a solemn promise to discharge your balance as soon as possible. You know my views and therefore it is needless to repeat them. Edward

[1] The inspecting cattle after being killed as distinguished from Shechita, the killing.

Hazard has not yet heard any thing from his father Cranston. if he does not hear from him in a day or two, I shall write him, as Hazard assures me that he knows he has the money by him, but it appears to me that in directing him, to pay me £46.16.6. there must be a mistake, as the Account you sent me against him with Interest calculated to the 2d April last amounted unto £48.9.3. Mrs. Hunter has had 2 Bbls. of your flour the 19th Ulto. weighing 4.1.3. neat. I am with the usual affectionate Salutations of Mrs. Seixas and family unto your good self, Mrs. Lopez and family very Respectfully, Dear Sir, Your affectionate humble Servant,

Moses Seixas.

In my next I shall inclose you a small Bill that Whitney has against the house, for some small Repairs that I allow'd him to make, such as making a pair counters, mending Windows and Locks. the boards for the Counters I took from the Garret floor as the french had taken many, and what is left are now nail'd down.

Daniel Crommelin and Sons to Aaron Lopez

Amsterdam, the 17 July, 1781.

Sir,

You've here the Copys of sundry letters we wrote you last Month as also original of the 20th ulto. which we intend'd to go by Capt. Cazeneau; but after he had your goods on board, he resolved to postpone yet a while his departure, so that we are yet uncertain when he will go; which prevents us to inclose you the Invoice and Bill of Loading; This delay and that of Capt. Haydon and Grinel who are yet detained at the Texel proves very disagreeable; we hope however that in a few days they will sail. We intend shoud there be a possibility to ship you yet a few articles by the Brig *Robin* nearly to the first value mentioned, and shall make use of such other opportunitys as will offer to make you the further Shippements desired; but can as yet say nothing positive on the subject. We have now to hand you the Copy of the Invoice of the two Chests of Tea which our

friend Mr. Henry Greig of Gotenburg have shipped you by our directions etc. conformable to your orders on board the Brig *Amsterdam* Capt. Magee amounting to £150: 16.-- which sum we shall pass to your Debit. We hope they will come safe to hand and prove to your satisfaction. As Mr. Greig has not shipped the 50 Packs of Pins we suppose he coud not get them: by his letter of the 4th Instant Capt. Magee was still detained on account of the numbers of Cruizers in the North Seas. Contrary to expectation your Remittance draft of Ab'm Redwood on Apthorp and Trecoteck has been paid and your Account creditted for the same vizt.

Amount of the Bills		£ 50.--.--
Charges in London Commission ½ per Ct.	£5.	
Brokarage at 1 per M.	1.	6.--
		£ 49.14.--
£49.14 Stg. at the Exchange of 34⅓£ is Bo.		£510.13.
Agio 4¾ per Ct...		24. 5.
		£534.18
Our Commission ½ per Ct.	£2.14	
Postage to and from London	1.--	3.14
		£531. 4.

The same be pleased to note in conformity.

We have desired Mr. Greig to continue to make you Shippements of Teas when any further opportunities offered. The article is here still on the rise at 26 St., Tobacco from 12 to 13 St. Affairs continues here much in the same situation and as yet no prospect of a peace. We remain very respectfully, Sir: Your most Obedient Servants,

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS

P. S. as we have by us the Invoice of the Goods already shipped on board of the Brig *Robin*, you've here the same inclosed: but are yet unacquainted if she will go out under that Name and if Capt. Cazneau will himself be the Commander.[1] This for your Governo.

[1] "We will ship per the *Robyn* Captain Cazneau, now the *young Peder* Captain Gram the remainder of Mr. Hayley's goods. we suppose as she is now under a Danish flag and with a Danish Crew, you will be able to effect the Insurance on your risk per said Vessell at a low premium. as it will not sail we suppose this

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez [1]

Boston, August 9th, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I rejoice that the goods forwarded last week arrived safe, and that you already had commenced their Sales with Success. may that good fortune ever attend your every undertaking equall to my unfeigned wishes. with us the buisness of selling goes on heavily, want of money and plenty of goods has sadly cloged the Springs, tho I beleive we have during the past week made out as well as our good neighbours by taking from 10 to 20 hard dollars per day and hope when we get a little more settled to do better. you are pleased to ask the predicament of the Paper Currency. I must realy confess myself at a loss to give you a just idea of it. The Interest is certainly paid and there is a Tax out for a great proportion of it which must be paid in that or Silver equall to 1 and $\frac{7}{8}$ths for one, yet we see none worth mention'g in circulation and what little there is am told has been run up as high as from 6 to 8 for one. from these Circumstances I beg you will be pleased to judge for I dare not offer my oppinion on the subject, all whome I have asked appear at a loss to account for this strange manuvre. . . .

I am with every Sentiment of Gratitude and Esteem, Dear Sir, Your most Obed. Nephew and hble Servant,

David Lopez, Jun.

Joseph Gardoqui and Sons to Aaron Lopez

Bilbao, the 21st August, 1781.

Dear Sir,

The foregoing is Triplicate of what mollestted your atention last with per Edmmands and Tracy who departted hence with a fine wind on the 8th Current as such flatter

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Month, we thought you would receive advice of it in good time to insure if you thought proper." *John de Neufville and Son to Christopher Champlin*, July 25, 1781. Ms.

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

ourselves will boath obtaine safe and prosperous passages and that the former will effect the delivery in good order of the Barrell of Hand Kerchiefs transmmitted you on board his Ship *Defence* which shall in Time be proud to hear.

By the safe appearance in our River of the *Portt Packett* Captain George Rapall we have had the pleasure to receive your handing us therein your remittance in two bills value 5100 Livres esteemed and agreable lines of the 6th June on Paris which have the satisfaction to informe you have been punctually forwarded to our Banker there for acceptance therefore when in Cash your account with us will have Creditt for the same at the Exchange of 76 Souls per current dollar in riales 20210 and 7 ms. of Vallon which if without errors be pleased to place to our debitt.

We are exceedingly obliged to you for the punctuality wherewith you have been pleased to pass to our Creditt the amount of the Invoice per Trask and flatter ourselves with hopes that the quality of the Hand Kerchiefs shipt per him will prove agreable as our uttmost Study for our friends Interest extends itself not only to this particular butt that of equity in price in which are sorry to say that have of late experienced to great an allteration on account of the enormous quantitys that have been exported. however have the pride to say that with Cash in hand we have preventted their being higher a governo.

We have now likewise agreable to your kind former Instructions to hand you herewith Invoice and bill of Loading for one Barrell thereof shipt on board the *Portt Packett* Captain Rapall whom sincerely wish a safe and pleasing Navigation home when request the favour of your ordering the same to be examined and if free from errors to place its amount to our Creditt in riales 10119 and 25ms. of Vallon which you stand duelly debited for by those who have the satisfaction to subscribe with the highest reggard and esteem.

Joseph Gardoqui and Sons

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez[1]

Boston 5th Sept'r 1781.

Dear Sir,

The inclosed was intended per Mr. Ter Bush, but before I could convey it to his Lodgings he had left the Town. I am since pleasured with your favor under yesterday's date per post, with 6 peices Chintz you are pleased to address our Company for sale which we beg you to rely Sir, shall not want our zealous endeav'rs to be effected to the best advantage. the two hundred silver dollars remited us by him was also safely handed, and compar'g right is passed to your Credit with our best thanks. Mr. Jones del'd me this Morning, your esteem'd favor inclosing the protested Newfoundland Bill of Exchange etc. on enquiry I find the Vessell now bound to that place was one sent from thence as a Cartel from the British, is commanded by an officer of theirs, and will not, nor any person on board, return here again; Mr. Hopkins the Commissary of prisoners for this departm't, tells me he shall dispatch a Flag to that place in the course of six or eight weeks, have therefore thought best to hold it for that Conveyance, unless you should deliberate to order it into the hands of Mr. Dolbear. . . .

Wishing your hon'd self, with my dear good Aunt, a pleasant and propitious Journey to Hartford, am with a reiteration of my best respects very asuredly, Dear Sir, Your most Obedt. Nephew,

David Lopez, Jun.

Please to caution the good Shopkeepers of Mount pleasant, to beware of Counterfeit Eight Dollar Bills of the New Emission, large quantitys am told by Mr. Henry Gardner, are now circulating; Severall persons lately from New York were yesterday detected in endeav'ing to pass it. they confess that a large Sailors Chest was sent out by the insidious Britons, to give the finall Stab to what they fondly believed, was the last recources this Country could devise

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

to maintain the War, a person yesterday going to pay into the Treasury his tax, found 29 Bills out of 40 of that stamp which he had bought for Silver at 4 and 5 for one. the only distinguishing mark I can as yet be able to give you, is in the Bills sign'd by R. Cranch. those that are true, you will find the Letter a, in Cranch to terminate at top in a sharp point thus, *a*, while the false ones are quite open thus, *a* nearly like the Vowel u.

John Nazro to Aaron Lopez[1]

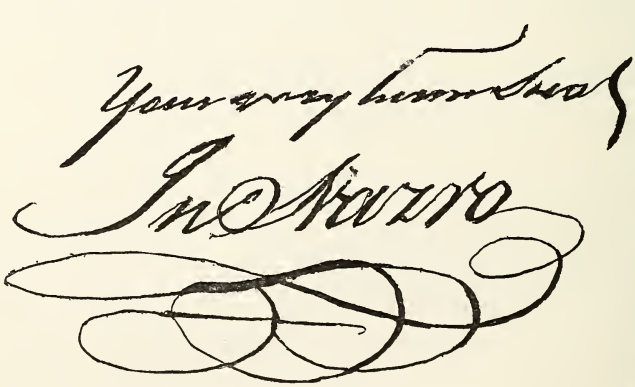
Worcester, 11th Sep'r, 1781.

D'r Sir,

. . . . . .

Doubtless you have heard of the Brittons burning part of New London.[2] Can't by any means see thro' their Policy in burning commercial towns. For should they subjugate the Country it will be their Loss; if finally the Belligerant Powers should settle the War, and leave the Country free from every except a commercial connection with them; still it will be their Loss, as by such conduct they impoverish the Country.

I am with great Respect, Sir,



[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] Arnold's expedition against Groton and New London.

Bredel and Ward to Christopher Champlin

London, 11th September, 1781.

Sir,

We are very sorry to inform you of the Death of our Worthy Patron George Hayley Esquire, which event we think it necessary to give you the earliest intelligence of, and that Mrs. Hayley is left Sole Executrix. Your Account Current with the Estate will be transmitted to you as soon as possible, the Interest on which will be made up to the 30th August last, the day of his Death after which no Interest will be allowed.

We embrace this opportunity to inform you that having lived many years with Mr. Hayley and had the principal management of his business for some years past, we therefore mean to establish ourselves in Trade with his former connections.

We beg leave to assure you that we are fully enabled to execute any Commissions we may be favoured with, having a perfect knowledge of Commerce in general; Permit us therefore to solicit your valuable Correspondence. Rest assured that the utmost attention shall be paid to your interest in every transaction committed to our care and hope shortly to have an opportunity of proving ourselves with the greatest respect, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants,

Bredel and Ward

Josiah Hewes to Aaron Lopez

Philadelphia, 9 October, 1781.

Mr. Aaron Lopez,

Since my last am favoured with yours of the 7 and 29 ulto. the former should have answered before this, had it not been Duty to an aged Mother, of near 80 years being ill in the Country and thrice sent for me, by which mist two post.

I note the Contents of yours of the 7th and am now sorry to informe you the *Spanish fame* ran on shore, on an Island near the Mouth of the Chesepeak, and lost all her Salt, and

I believe the Vessel allso. this I had from a person a few days past who saw the Captain on shore, and who tould me they saved only the Riggen, Stores, some Race Ginger, etc. unfortunate he did not put in here, as our Cape has been intirely open a long time. as to the tea I have sold onley one Chest last week, at two weeks Credit for 6/3. The Cash price for some time 6/, which I could not bare to take, that will not sell more, til a better price can be obtained, or receive your further orders. when I wrote you on the fourth ulto. I could purchase bills at 1/ per Liver. they gradually rose last week to 5/9 for 5 livers. this is chiefly owing to a ship sailing for france (which ship sailed last Saturday) one other reason, when the french armey came to this City it was expected bills would be drawn for their Account, that the possessors of bills here sold at 1/ per Liver and some under but to our great Surprise, not a bill has been sold here, of theirs, since, that the Intrest bills have rose as above. the above ship being gone expect they will fall. G. Benson informs me bills at Boston are to be purchased at 30 to 33 discount, as soon as can get aney, (and I receve the Money for the Chest of tea) will remit you in bills agreable to yours of the 29 ulto. 5/3 for 5 livers is about the price with you; this being our great Election day for Representatives, cannot be so full as I wish. Meantime am with great Sincerity, yours,

JOSIAH HEWES

Jamaica Rum 11/ to 12/ windward 9/ Melasses 3/4 raw Sugars 60/ to 65/ loaf 1/6 bohea tea 6/ to 6/3 Coffee 13d Cocoa 100/ pepper 10/ pymento 2/6 Ginger ground 2/ to 2/6 Race Ginger 1/6 best Salt 20/dayly arriveing, that I think will fall to 15/ fine flour 21/ to 22/ Common 18/.

N. B. have not sold the Ginger nor any more Coffee.

CORNELIUS TER BUSH TO AARON LOPEZ

Fishkill, November 11th, 1781.

Dr. Sir,

I BEG you will possess your self with patience a few days and I will be with you if god spares my Health. I am colecting Cash as fast as possible I can, as I mentioned to you

before. I find no line from you by this post, so hope you have sent no Teams on, for Salt will not command more then 30/. and it is like to be very plenty. you likely see the Advertisements in the papers as Mr. lowden[1] tells me he sends yours on. I will not be able to tarry with you long as my Bissiness requires my close attention at this place. I onely rite you a small scetch so as to let you no my thoughts are not absent although obliged to forfit my word to you as I was to be with you. by gods permission hope to set out for you on Tuesday next.

I beg leave to congratulate you of the late Serender of Cornwallos and his army. all here in raptures of Joy the houses have been aluminated two nights here and at Poughkeepsie firing of Cannon sky rackets and burn fires are continualy kept up. Rejoiceing here I think is to extream. if so hope to god theay may be forgiven. please to give my best Respects to your good family perticularly to your little branch. I want to see you all. So I must conclude wishing us all a direct guide.

Your Assured Friend and Humble Servant,

Corn's Ter Bush

John Nazro to Aaron Lopez

Worcester, 9th November, 1781.

Dear Sir,

By return of J. Soley I am favour'd with yours of 8th instant, acknowledging the receipt of seven pounds sixteen shillings, also enclosing Invoice No. 4 of Woolen Goods etc. consigned to me for sale, amounting to £31.7. which in coarse have passed to your credit in accompt sales. In measuring the goods, find that there's the Thumb wanting in the whole; as it has been a custom in this State to allow it, in all woolens etc. except Silks and a few other articles, I imagine it will be attended with great difficulty to break it.

[1] Samuel Loudon, printer of the *New York Packet*, issued at Fishkill from October 1, 1776, to the close of the war.

Please to say how I must do in this case. The worth of the Thumbs being added to the price I think would be best. Please to send me one Bundle of the heavy No. 4 Pins and 1 dozen (heavy) black Barcelo[na] Handkfs. dont doubt but you will put them as low as they are sold in Boston, for prompt pay. if the price is such as will answer, will send the money per very next conveyance. I am, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, Your very humble Servant,

JNO. NAZRO

P. S. You'l please to look into Invoice No. 4 in the article Hairbine is an error of 27/.

JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Amsterdam, 20 November, 1781.

Sir,

CONFIRMING the sundry letters we had the pleasure of writing you per sundry opportunities in August last, particularly by the *Gates*, Captain Newman, on board of whom we shipp'd you sundry goods which 'tis needless to mention, said Vessel we hear having now safe arrived we should have been happy to have been informed also of the safe arrival of the Snow *four friends* Gibbons, which was taken off North Faro, in September last, and carried into Scotland, as we had shipped you on board of said Brig one Case, one Bale, and one Trunk marked © No. 2, 4 a 6, Value £234: 4. which we hope you may have insured, on the arrival of the Vessels in America which sailed from hence in company.

We have also shipped you on board the *Robyn* Isaac Cazneau Mr. under Danish Collours, 1 Case, 1 Trunk and 1 Bale of the same mark, No. 1, 3 a 5, Value £172: 8 Stg. said Vessel has laid a long time in our roads in hopes of sailing in company with a fleet of our west India men, but has been so long disappointed, that we suppose he will soon sail at any rate. by the aforementioned Letters your esteemed favor of 17 April is answered. waiting your further commands we in the meantime remain.

[JOHN DE NEUFVILLE AND SON]

Moses Seixas to Aaron Lopez

Newport, November 26, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I was duly favor'd with your kind and acceptable Letter under date of the 4th current and tribute you my cordial thanks for the friendly assertions therein contain'd. It would afford me pleasure cou'd I now inform you, that I had effected a Settlement of your accounts with Geo: Sears, but this I can say, that I think he shows a disposition to adjust them, for which purpose he has taken them for examination and tells me that as soon as possible he will compleat the matter and to your satisfaction. you may rely on my attention to urge his speedy compliance. Whitney still persists in declining to sign your Memorandum and says that you are certainly mistaking. Am much oblig'd for your care in forwarding one of my Letters, and Mrs. Levy thanks you for doing the same with hers. her Husband was to set out for Amsterdam the begining of August but as he has been agoing week after week ever since the 8: May, I think there is but little dependance to be made on his movements, which have hitherto been such a series of blunders, inconsistencies, and inattention, that I am much afraid they will eventually prove a fatal Stab to my Character and reputation. in short I see no way to ward off that additional severe and bitter blow, unless I submit to the extortionable terms that Handy demands of me for the Loan of about 500 dollars, which is 10 per Ct. thereon untill April only, then if he should not want the money, and I did, he wou'd renew the note again for a few Months at the same Interest of 24 per Ct. per annum which I suppose he wou'd work up by renewals unto 30 per Ct. per annum. I really dont know what to do, the Nantucketers pressing hard for payment, and no one here from whom I can get the money but him. My friend Hadwen who gave me some encouragement that he would supply me, has been disappointed in receiving his money, so that there is no hopes left of his being able to furnish me with any. perhaps as Cazneau

was not to leave Amsterdam untill September he may bring me some relief. . . . I am with great Regard and Respect, Dear Sir, Your very Affectionate humble Servant

Moses Seixas

Hiam Levy and Samson Marcus to Aaron Lopez

Amsterdam, December 4th, 1781.

Sir,

I now assume to take the liberty to address you on a subject of business, and with your permition I shall be as brief on the matter as possible. since my coming here to this metropolis, I am convinced from substantial proof that there is a considerable business transacted to America with success, which has terminated to a great advantage, and with that view I have thought proper to establish myself in order to partake together with my friends some share, and to facilitate such undertaken, I have form'd a connection with one Mr. Samson Marcus a native of this place, and with the greatest propriety I can say that he is a person of reputable character, but if you think it necessary to have a further information, please to inform yourself from Mr. Isaac Moses of Philadelphia with whom he has a concern, and from whom we now expect to be largely connected with. from those circumstances we have mutually agreed to transact business to North America, as extensive as our ability will admit, on which occasion we heartily wish to be the means to adopt any agreeable mode of business, which may prove reciprocal, to which we sincerely offer our best services, and shall think ourselves extreem happy to have the honour to execute any commands from so worthy a Gentleman. be assured it is in our power to comply with any orders for goods, on as good terms as any Merchant in this City, but must observe to you, there being a great impediment to ship coarse goods on freight, owing to the Merchant to whom the vessel is addressed to, and the captain, they always endeavour to obtain as valuable goods on that occasion as possible. from this motive we are induced, if agreeable to

you to send us a proper suitable fast sailing vessel of about 150 tuns, ready fited, to our address, at the same time we shou'd be extreem glad to be interest in the same, either a quarter or an eight, to be paid here in whatever you please to order, but must observe, we decline to run any risk. in that case you will please to insure the amount with you, such a vessel of that burden, we make no doubt of succeeding to obtain a freight either for Boston or Philadelphia to a great advantage. I must beg leave further to add that we intended to have ship'd to your address to the amount of One thousand pounds per the bearer Captain Trowbridge, but he declined to take them. I believe he is intirely loaded by his Merchant. his vessel is about one hundred and seventy tuns, and says he makes about three thousand pounds sterling freight. I mention this circumstance for your government. however you may rely on us, that as soon as an oppertunity offers to Boston, and we can ship goods on freight, we will chearfully embrace the same with the greatest pleasure. the inclosed letter please to deliver to my brother Mr. Seixas to whome I have fully communicated my plan business, and flatter myself he will be very glad to corroborate in any measures that you may think proper and appears eligible to execute. permit me at this time to have the honour to subscribe myself, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

HIAM LEVY

December 6, 1781.[1]

Sir:

ALTHO' I am a stranger and unknowing to you, I have now taking the freedom, thro' Mr. Hiam Levy introduction to informe you that since his writing the foregoing letter, Captain Trowbridge came to let us know he wou'd take two trunks goods, but they must be valuable. notwithstanding his sudden notice, we immediately effected the same, as you will observe by the inclosed bill lading and Invoice amounting to *f.* 3523.6. to your address. on the recivel

[1] On the same sheet.

please to dispose of them to best advantage. out of the proceeds we must beg of you to pay Mr. Moses Seixas about one hundred pounds sterling, the remainder please to remit us in good bills of Exchange as soon as possible. we expect when oppertunity offers for your place to inlarge our business with you. in the interum we sincer wish to cultivate a mutual and beneficial plan of Buseness on a permanent footing. we are most respectfuly, Your most obedient humble Servants,

S. Marcus and Co.

David Lopez, Jr. to Aaron Lopez[1]

Boston, 13th December, 1781.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure of your most esteem'd favor under yesterdays date, anouncing your safe return from Hartford, after a very fatigueing Jaunt, and without the Sattisfaction of determining the final issue of your vexatious Suit. I pray the almighty may incline the hearts of those partial judges, to what is just and equitable, that they may compel their *voracious* brethren to make ample restitution for what they have unjustly deprived you of; I wish I could say, that, I feel myself flatter'd of their doing justice, but the despicable opinion I entertain of that State, and their Laws, leaves me but little room to hope. it is indeed peculiarly unfortunate, that every attempt from that quarter should be attended with such perplexing circumstances. I was in hopes, that you would have been able to reach this, before Colo. Pope left Town, and thereby save a Journey at this inclement Season, to Bedford; he tarried here untill Sunday evening last, and by what I could collect from him before he went I judged he could bear great sway, with the Captors, and prove very instrumental in favourably compromising the matter with them, which Step, I am advised will be the most eligible to pursue for the salvation of any part of that property, as the Law is so explicit against it, that, no Jury

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

who are sworn to regulate their verdict by its tenor can do otherways than condemn it, altho their Conscience may dictate to them from a point of equity, that it aught to be restored to you. what Congress may determine respecting this case if appeal'd to, is uncertain, or whether there is a posibility of refering the matter to them after the decission of this Court, is equally so; Mr. Jno. Cushing thinks that in all Maritime Causes, where the Captors and Claimant, are both residents of the State, there is no apeal. yet be that as it may, I am confident your disposition will be to avoid the Law if practicable, and from what I this day could learn by Jno. Lowell it appears to be very much so; he saw me at the Shop door this morning, and under pretext of enquiring the price of some articles, came in, and finding me alone, he told me he came to apprize me, that he had been apply'd to for Councill in a Case, which he since was inform'd you was interested in, tho he could not believe it from many circumstances that appeared, such as the vessell's being reported from Curaçoa, and his not hearing of your being either at the place of her arrivall, or here, before this to claim her, that should it prove yours, he should feel very unhappy, as he was engaged by the other party, and must faithfully do his duty, and was very certain that it would be imposible to get the least part of the vessell or Cargo clear. I was cautious of saying much to him least his design might be to pump me, therefore let him have all the talk to himself, and only told him after he had finish'd, that I had heard of this vessell before and had had it suggested to me from Colo. Pope, that it was suposed to be yours, which I thought might probably be, and in consequence had requested of *him*, to suspend the matter where it then was, untill I could hear from you, as you was out of the State; he then said that he was extreemly glad the Colo. was so favourably disposed, and that he knew there would be no great difficulty in settling it without law, as the Colo. had told him after taking his opinion, that, altho' the Law was so pointed in favor of the Captors, yet as there was a surmise of the propertys being yours, he could heartely wish

to be Instrumental if so, in making matters as favourable as posible and that he thought they would be disposed to make better terms with you than with any other person on the Continent. he then said he could wish if the property was realy yours, that you might be able to attend to it speedely, as the delay of every day, might alter the disposition of the Captors by giving them time to listen to the persuations of the many evil minded persons there is in the world. from this, I think we may draw a favourable Conclusion, and trust, that the almighty will be yet pleased to terminate this affair to your wishes, the which, I fervently pray:

You will have observed, that since your absence I have forwarded the whole of what was left to my care, which I hope has arrived in good order, and may merit your approbation. I have still some Moneys remaining on hand, not being able to purchace Bills at what you was pleas'd to stipulate. they are now from 12 to 15 per Ct. discount only, and very scarce even at that. I have the pleasure to advise you our having finish'd Sales of what suppose Superfine Flour has been transmited. the last (I mean what was good of it,) went at 27/. as Christmas is now approaching, more will command a ready sale. I wish what may be sent, may be properly attended to as much of the last was miserable, and many of the Bar'ls very iniquitiously tare'd. I am very respectfully, Dear Sir, Your Obedient Nephew

D. Lopez, Jr.

Josiah Hewes to Aaron Lopez

Philadelphia, 24 December, 1781.

Dear Sir,

My last was of the 11th Inst. since which have none of your favours.

This chiefly, is to give you price current, and some account of Trade. Not one Vessell arrived from Holland this fall, and now navigation [is] sumwhat interupted. Last week it was totally stopt a few days, but opened again on Sunday.

a fall of snow last evening, I expect will cause a nother Imbargo. tea has rose to 7/6 and likely will be much higher soon, that I still keep the four Chest left, after forwarding the two to fishkill. there is the greatest probability at present of tea being 9/. as most of the glutt of that article which arrived in August and September is gone East and West, that it is become scarce, and much sought after. I wish to watch this matter to get the highest price, and yet am somewhat fearfull, I shall not hit it. you are very senceable of this difficulty. however will do my utmost for your intrest. bills rose to 7/1½*d*, but now are falling, have been sold this day at 6/9 for five livers, and by the best information, will rather fall yet. European goods rather on the rise say 2/6 and 2/9 to 3/ per Liver. this is owing to several vessels from France lately lost and some gone into other ports, and not one of the Gottenburg or Amsterdam Vessels arrived. The Congress pas'd an Ordanance etc. that no English goods be imported into the thirteen States after the first of March, 1782, which you will likely soon see published in the News papers.[1] this being at present the needfull am with the Most Sincere Regard yours,

JOSIAH HEWES

Price Current. Jam. Rum 13/ Windward 11/ Country 8/ fine flour 24/ common 21/ bread 16/6 beeff £6.10 pork £8 Raw Sugars 80/ loaf 20d Melasses 7/6 Coffe 17 and 18d pepper 7/6 Race Ginger 22d Ground 2/6 Pymento 3/4 Rock Salt 22/6 to 25/ Cotton 2/4 Cordage £7 Russia duck £8 ditto Sheeting £9 tar 35/ pitch 80/ turpentine 90/ Madeira wine of first quallity and fitt for use 17/6 to 20/ common low new ditto 10/ to 11/ port 12/6 Lisbon 9/ Tenerieff 8/6 fiall 7/6 Indigo 7/6 Barr Iron £40 whale bone in slabs 8/ and none at market. I wish I could get a few Sable Skins am tould their plenty in Boston at 2/6 and here worth 12/ but I want a few for Muffs and Tippets for our family.

N. B. I have made perticular enquiry but cannot learn what was saved out of the *Spanish fame*.

[1] *Journals of the Continental Congress* (L. of C. ed.), XXI. 1154. The ordinance was passed December 4, and was issued as a broadside.

Exch.ge for 18 Dollars, at five Livres Tournois p. Dollar. Numb. 582

United States of AMERICA, 15th Day of January 1782

AT Thirty Days Sight of this Second Bill, First, Third and Fourth not paid, pay to William Choate or Order, Eighteen Dollars, in Ninety Livres Tournois, for Interest due on Money borrowed by the United States.

To the Commissioner or Commissioners of the United States of America, at Paris.

M.r Hillegas
Treas.r

Countersigned Nath.l Appleton
Commissioner of the Continental Loan-Office in the State of Massachusetts

K

Exch.ge for 18 Dollars, at five Livres Tournois p. Dollar. Numb. 582

United States of AMERICA, 15th Day of January 1782

AT Thirty Days Sight of this Third Bill, First, Second and Fourth not paid, pay to William Choate or Order, Eighteen Dollars, in Ninety Livres Tournois, for Interest due on Money borrowed by the United States.

To the Commissioner or Commissioners of the United States of America, at Paris.

M.r Hillegas
Treas.r

Countersigned Nath.l Appleton
Commissioner of the Continental Loan-Office in the State of Massachusetts

QS

Exch.ge for 18 Dollars, at five Livres Tournois p. Dollar. Numb. 582

United States of AMERICA, 15th Day of January 1782

AT Thirty Days Sight of this Fourth Bill, First, Second and Third not paid, pay to William Choate or Order, Eighteen Dollars, in Ninety Livres Tournois, for Interest due on Money borrowed by the United States.

To the Commissioner or Commissioners of the United States of America, at Paris.

M.r Hillegas
Treas.r

Countersigned, Nath.l Appleton
Commissioner of the Continental Loan-Office in the State of Massachusetts

LN

Agreement between Benjamin Peirce and Christopher Champlin

Whereas Mr. Christopher Champlin on his particular account and risk, and upon his account and Mr. Geo. Gibbs, hath shiped on board the Brigantine *Minerva* (myself Master) upon Freight for the Havannah sundry Merchandize upon conditions of Freight as is expressed in each bill of Lading signed for said Goods it is hereby agreed and understood that I am to sell said Merchz. at the Havannah at five per Cent commission and bring back the neat proceeds thereof in cash on board said Brig. *Minerva* free from Freight or commission provided it is the custom so to do at Philadelphia in similar cases where Goods have been shiped to the Havannah. If it is customary, to receive Freight for money so returned. In that case I am to receive the customary Freight charged at Philadelphia in similar cases.

Should it so happen that I do not return direct to New England, that I have liberty to ship home the neat proceeds of said Merchz. by any arm'd Vessell of equal Force as to men and guns as my Brig. bound either to Boston Newport or Connecticut, upon the best terms in your power.

Consented and agreed to, Newport, 6 March, 1782, by

Chris. Champlin
Benj. Peirce

Christopher Champlin to Josiah Hewes[1]

Newport, 9th April, 1782.

Sir,

Your favor of [*blank*] March to Mr. Gibbs hands us the agreeable advice of the *Lark's* Arrival with you, your market much lowered. We were short in our Instructions by the *Lark*, respecting Insurance round.

We therefore request that you make for our joint account Insurance on the Sloop *Lark* and Cargo Robert Champlin Master from Philadelphia to the Havannah on the Island

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

of Cuba during her tarry there and from thence to the Harbour of Newport and there safely moored twenty-four hours, viz. Two thousand dollars upon the Hull, Sails, Riging, etc. and Two thousand dollars on her Cargo. As the Sloop must have departed from your River, near a month before this may reach you and consequently if captured on this Coast you will be informd of it, therefore if not heard of, the presumption is clear, she has escaped the Cruisers upon your Coast, as also ours as we hear nothing of her. We therefore flatter ourselves you will be able to effect the Insurance at 33⅓ per C. taking into consideration the difference between her returning to Newport instead of Philad'a which is much less. at any rate, do not exceed Forty per C. as we mean to risk her rather than exceed that premium. 5/6th of the Premium place to the Rum Account the 1/6th to Capt. Caleb Gardners Account.

We are, with much respect, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

CHRIS. CHAMPLIN[1]

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS TO AARON LOPEZ

Amsterdam, the 22 April, 1782.

Sir,

THE preceding is Copy of our last respects under date of the 29 Ulto. per Captain Deshon, to its Contents we beg you'll be referr'd. Said Vessel left the Texel some days ago with a very favorable wind, so flatter ourselves of her having got safe from our Coast and that this will meet her arrivd at Boston. We have now also to acknowledge the receipt of the Original of your favor of the 30th October on which have at present nothing further to reply except that we shall

[1] "I could not get the *Lark* insured at your limitation, and she left the Delaware Bay the 20th of April; and now have pleasure to inform you I have not heard of her since that, doubt not she got clear of this coast, and hope she arrived safe at the Havanna. . . . While our trade was open I could sell almost any thing for cash; but the stoppage of the Havanna trade by the English cruisers prevents the best men in the city being punctual." *Josiah Hewes to Christopher Champlin*, Philadelphia, June 5, 1782.

cause the two enclosed letters to be delivered to Mr. Hiam Levy who we expect daily here. To our concern the Brig *Robin* Captain Cazneau is still in port. what is the Occasion thereof we are at a loss to say. The other concerned in her Cargo and we are occupied to see what can be done in this affair, in order either to force him to go to sea, or to return us our goods. We observed by your last favor of the 18th December your desire to have your account currant. the same we shall make out at the first leizure moment.

With the utmost satisfaction we can now acquaint you that last Friday the 19 Instant our States General acknowledged the Independance of the United States of America and admitted John Adams Esqr. as Minister Plenipotentiary of said States on which we heartily congratulate you, not doubting but it will be attended with the most happy Consequences to both Countrys. The late alteration in the British Ministry offers also a pleasing prospect of the Blessing of Peace being restored to your Country as likewise to this provided Great Britain should also determine these in France and Spain which however as yet seems to suffer difficulties.[1] We remain, etc.

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS TO AARON LOPEZ

Amsterdam, the 4th June, 1782.

Sir:

OUR last respects were under date of the 22d April to which we beg you'll be referr'd. Have now to acquaint you that a few days came to hand the Original of your favor of the 26 February; its contents we have duly noted. it is well you've passed in Conformity the Sundry Sums advised you; as likewise the Amount of the different Invoices which is well: tho' we no less than you are very sorry at the ill success of these various Shippement: As to your two Chests of Tea laying at Christiansand you'll before now be

[1] Lord North announced his resignation of office in the House of Commons, March 20, 1781. He was succeeded by Lord Rockingham.

informed of the cause thereof. And as we have reason to believe our friend at Gotenburg has not been able to dispose of them which we had wished he had done, we have desired him to forward you them by the first Occasion, and shoud there be two opportunities, than by each Vessel one, and to continue to ship you by the Six following Vessels, one Chest agreeable to your desire; but nothing is more difficult than to get orders well executed in these parts, and is attended with much trouble. As to the Brig *Robin* Captain Cazneau, we have agreeable to our last protested against him and his Owners. But as this can answer to no great purpose, a general Meeting was held amongst the principal Shippers in her. by whom were appointed Mr. John Hodshon and Messrs. De la Lande and Fynje; to take such steps in this affair as they judged wou'd be the best for the general Concern. in consequence of this they have ordered the Vessel up to Town, where she now lays; but are ignorant what steps they will further pursue and in which we believe they are themselves much at a loss. What ever will be resolved we shall in time acquaint you with.[1] By the Certificates you send us concerning the Queens Ware we are well persuaded the person who delivered us the same did not act well with us, but we dare say the Errors will have been occasioned by his Servants; who will never acknowledge the same; therefore to expect any further Satisfaction from him we despair off, having before allready met with so much trouble to obtain the return he made us, and to go at law on this Account woud be throwing away money to little purpose: we must say that we are very sorry to find this matter so situated, and wish'd it was in our power to give you satisfaction you require. We are much obliged to you for the care you've been pleased to take of the case of goods for Mr. Wessel Van Schaick: We observe the reason of your having deferr'd to make us remittances on the expecta-

[1] "They ordered the Brig up to town and after having in vain tryed to recover the goods with the freight and primage, have compromised to take back the goods on half the freight and primage being repaid. Accordingly the goods are now unloading." *Ingraham and Bromfield to John Wheelwright,* July 12, 1782.

tion of receiving your Account Currant, which it concerns us we have not yet been able to forward you occasion'd by our having of late had a multiplicity of very pressing business on hands: but intend to make use of the first leisure moment to draw it out and transmit you the same, but by looking over your Account the last Invoice per Captain Deshon nearly closed the same. We are now agoing to ship you by the Brig *Sukey* Captain Moses Grinell one Chest of Tea, of which our next will transmit you the Bill of Loading and Invoice. This Vessel is a remarkable fine Sailor so hope she'll arrive safe.

We remain with much regard very respectfully, Sir: Your most Obedient Servants,

DANIEL CROMMELIN AND SONS

P. S. Pray give us your Opinion concerning the prohibition of the import with you of British goods.

We wrote you some time past regarding the demands of our friend Webster Blount Esquire on Captain Hector MacNiel[1] and that Messrs. Jno. and Andrew Cabot[2] of Beverley had this matter in hands; but as said Gentleman continues to be without any advices from them he has most pressingly desired us, that an enquiry shoud be made at Messrs. Cabot, how this matter stands and proper remittance made, to which purpose he has sent us open the enclosed letter, that you may see the nature of this affair. As we have a high regard for Mr. Blount, your serving us in this, will greatly oblige.

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[1] A captain in the Continental Navy, October 10, 1776, and given as coming from Boston. *Journals of the Continental Congress* (L. of C. ed.), VI. 861. See also *Mass. Hist. Soc. Proceedings*, XII. 276.

[2] Andrew Cabot (1750–1791), m. Lydia Dodge of Salem, and engaged in the unfortunate Penobscot expedition. John removed later from Beverley to Salem. The name of his wife was Hannah Dodge.

John de Neufville and Son to Christopher Champlin

Amsterdam, 5 July, 1782.

Sir,

Your most esteemed favor of 10 April last per *Firebrand*, is just come to hand. To reply of what you say about our not giving you sooner intelligence of shipping you some goods per Gibbons, but if you consider the impossibility we were in of doing it, and that we at that time had reason to think ourselves happy to have an Opportunity for shipping them, there was such a Scarcity of vessells in proportion to the trade. We shall follow your orders with respect to shipping you tea when we can obtain it at your Limits which unless peace takes place soon or more appearances than is yet, (particularly as the New ministry in England are again gone out of office), we fear we shall not be able to effect it very soon. The *Robin* is to be unloaded by the perversness of some of the Shippers. We shall certainly not ship any unacceptionable goods that are liable by the act of Congress, without the particular orders of our friends for that purpose. by the return of the *Firebrand*, we hope to be able to advise you, of our having another opportunity for our reshipping the greatest part of those goods. till then we beg leave to assure you of the perfect esteem and great regard with which we remain Sir Your Most Obedient Humble Servants.

John de Neufville and Son

Moses Seixas to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, July 17th, 1782.

Dear Sir,

My last Respects was by Captain Davis to which please to be reffer'd. I have this day sold my 5 Chests Tea at 12/6 payable next week at the Option of the purchaser, in Bills at 1/3 per Livre (which is 12½ per Cent under par) or else in Cash, which I hope will meet your approbation, as have obtaind 6*d* in all more than any as yet has been sold since I have been here. You'll please to communicate this

unto Mr. Vernon and Mr. Seixas, as also that I expect to leave this place next Sunday week. Shou'd you think of making any further adventure here, I hope you'll delay it until I get home, so as I may take a concern with you, if agreable. The price of Tea in all probability will not be reduced unless the 3 Vessells, which are expected in here from Amsterdam shou'd be fortunate enough to arrive, of which no dependance can be made, as this harbour is closely blockaded by British Cruizers, notwithstanding the Ship *General Monk* got in the River yesterday, but from whence is not yet known.[1] the last Eastern mail that went from hence was taken from the Post Rider betwixt Bristol and Trenton about 25 Miles from this City, by the same party which took the Southern mail a few weeks ago, and this [was do]ne at Midday. by this you may imagine how dangerous it is for Travellers with money. I am very Respectfully, Dear Sir, Your most humble Servant,

Moses Seixas

please to tell Captain Minturne that I have not sold any of his Candles yet.

Brenton, Shattucks and Jarvis to Christopher Champlin

St. Pierre, Martinico, July 28th, 1782.

Sir,

We take the Liberty of acquainting you and our Friends in general, that a House is established at St. Pierre, in the Island of Martinico, by Silas G. Brenton, William and John Shattuck and Benjamin Jarvis, by the Firm of Brenton, Shattucks and Jarvis, under which Firm beg leave to tender our Services. Those who please to honor us with their Business, may depend on our utmost Exertions for

[1] "Business very dull here owing to the River being so closely blockaded, by the Enemy. Yesterday a Ship from Cadiz was taken after being 48 hours in the River. Bills of Exchange on France 1/3 for a Livre, in which I believe I shall invest my Money, in order to avoid the risk of transportation which is great." *Moses Seixas to Christopher Champlin*, July 8, 1782.

their Interest. We trust those who have favour'd our Mr. Brenton with their Commands, will have no Cause to withdraw their Favours. We are Your most obedient Servants,

BRENTON, SHATTUCK AND JARVIS

PRIZE MONEY

VALUE Received We the Subscribers jointly and severally promis to pay Howland and Coit of Norwich the Sum of Three Hundred Forty three Pounds, Five shillings Lawful Money in Ten Days from this date with Intrest from that time untill paid it being for the proportion of Prize Brigantine *Adventure* allowed to the Officers and Men of the Ship *Alliance*, which we promise to pay in behalf of the Claimers of said Brigantine and Cargo, as Witness our hands in New London this 16th August 1782.

CHRIS. [CHAMPLIN]
W. S[TEWART]

Witness:
DUDLEY SALTONSTALL
RUSSELL HUBBARD, JUNIOR

WILLS COWPER AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Nansemond, Virg'a, August 2nd, 1782.

Sir,

INCLOSED is your Account Sales and the quantity of Tobacco arising therefrom. The Tobacco shall be deliver'd pointedly to your Order. Our Trade here is in a very declining state there appears to be a total Inability in both the Merchant and Planter to discharge their Contracts which renders business very disagreeable. this added to the great risque of our Navigation makes the prospect very gloomy. to this hour we have not received one pound of Tobacco for your box of Goods and we at the time thought we had disposed of them to a good and punctual hand. however this shall not make us delay a moment in paying you up. New England Rum is worth 6/8 per gallon and we beleive will

continue at that the barter price of Tobacco 20/ per Ct. Flour 15/ per Ct. Our Cape is closely watched by the Enemys Cruisers. it will be safer in October and thro' the winter months than at present. We are with much Respect Your Obedient Servants

WILLS COWPER AND CO.

WILLIAM GUMBES, JR. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

St. Martins, 1st September, 1782.

Sir,

YOUR Captain, Mr. Joshua Rothburn, on his arrival here apply'd to me for advice respecting his loading etc. which I candidly gave him, and am happy to inform you that through his attention to your interest he has procur'd a load of Salt cheaper than it has yet been sold for since the commencement of this Crop.

I take the liberty to acquaint you that I am settled here in the mercantile line in co-partnership with my Brother Ben: Gumbes Junior and Mr. George Dromgoole, under the firm of Ben: Gumbes Junior and Co., and should you send any vessels this way we shall be happy in executing your orders.

At foot you have the prices current. Mrs. Gumbes, (formerly Miss Sally Mardenbro') desires her compliments to your Lady, Miss Peggey and all your family, and please to accept the same from, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

WILLIAM GUMBES, JUNIOR

Retail prices current.

Superfine flour 2 Joes per bbl.	Rum 3/ per Gallon.
White Oak Staves 10 Joes per M.	Sugar, from 48/ to 51/ per Cwt.
Hoops . . . 8 Do. . do.	Salt, rising in price daily.
Lumber . . . 7 to 8 Joes per M.	Pork, 3 Joes per bbl.
good Horses will sell from 14 to 18 Joes.	

INVOICE

INVOICE of sundry Merchandize ship'd by Geo: Gibbs, Chris: Champlin, James Robinson, William Minturn and Geo: Champlin as Cargo on board the Brigg: *George*,

Robert Champlin, bound to Surranam on their Account and Risk and consignd to said Master, viz.

29 hhds. and 2 Tierses Tobacco W[eight] 23947 N[et].
5 hhds. and 1 bbl. Codfish . . . 36.2.0.
115 bbls. Shadds.
5000 Ropes Onions.
100 Shooks for hhd.
193 hhds. for Moloss.
1800 Hoops.
8 bbl. Beef
4 bbl. Pork
1100 lb. of Bread
} Provition.

Received all the above mention'd Goods and Merchandize on board the Brigg: *George* myself Master bound to Suranam, on Account of Geo: Gibbs, Chris: Champlin, James Robinson, William Minturn and Geo: Champlin owners of said Brigg: which I promise to dispose of agreeable to their orders and render them a proper Account of the same. Newport 28 December 1782.

ROBERT CHAMPLIN

TIMOTHY BURR TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Invoice of Flower on Bord of the Sloop *Samuel* Kilbourn Master, belonging to Timothy Burr and Samuel Burr, in Com.

	C Qr lb
11 Casks marked C. O. containg	28.1.12
13 Ditto marked T. B. O. contg.	25.0.22
24 Ditto marked T.B. contg.	53.3.5
	107.1.11

Hartford, December 13, 1782.

Sir, the above flower we have on bord of Captain Kilbon who has bin taken and retaken. these air to beg the favour of you to settel the Salvedg as resonabel as you can in order for that we have sent 15 half Joes: if it shold be short if you wold [be] so kind as to settel the Same and send the Receipt by Mr. Olcott, you may depend on the Cash to be sent as soon as poserabel. your Complyance will much oblige your Humbel Servant,

TIMO. BURR

N. B. please to deliver within to Captain Kilbourn master of said Sloop. yours etc.

T. B.

Sailing Orders of Robert Champlin

Newport, 31st December, 1782.

Captain Robert Champlin,

You being Master of our Brigantine *George* now lying at anchor in the Harbour of Newport, are to observe the following orders and instructions, viz. To proceed from hence, with all convenient Dispatch, to Surrinam, where upon your safe arrival dispose of your Cargo at the best terms the market will admit. Invest the net proceeds thereof in Molosses and compleatly load the Brig with the same on our Account, after which return to Newport as soon as possible. If the Net proceeds of your Cargo shoud exceed the sum required to load the Brig with molosses in that case lay out the money which may remain, in bills of Exchange drawn by merchants of Property upon their Friends at Amsterdam, with good Endorsers. the first and second bills of each set reindorse to Mr. John De Neufville Junior, Merchant at Amsterdam. write him a few lines by two different ships enclosing a bill of the different sets in each letter, and request him to obtain Payment of them and place the amount to the Credit of Messrs. George Gibbs, William Minturn, Christopher Champlin, James Robinson and George Champlin, Merchants at Newport Rhode Island, untill he may receive their further orders, a copy of which letter you must be careful to keep to deliver us at your return to Newport, and also to secure the third and fourth bills of each set in such manner as to bring them with you to Newport. Should you by any accident whatever fall to Leward of Surrinam, it is our orders that you proceed to Dimeraro or *Isaac Cape*, where dispose of your Cargo, on the best terms that market will admit, loading the Brig. with Rum. Close your sales and purchase there without attempting to proceed to any other port from whence return direct to Newport.

We wish you a successfull Voyage and are your Friends and Owners,

CHRIS CHAMPLIN, *for himself*
GEO. GIBBS
WILLIAM MINTURN
JAMES ROBINSON
GEO. CHAMPLIN

The above is a Copy of my orders received from the owners of the Brig *George* myself master,

ROBERT CHAMPLIN

MARY HAYLEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 1st February, 1783.

Sir,

I BEG leave to offer you my sincere congratulations on the fair prospect of an approaching Peace, which I hope may be settled between Great Britain and America on the firm basis of perpetual amity, sincere friendship and mutual Interests. This happy event being so near I think it right to inform you of my intention to pursue in a moderate way the business usually carried on by Mr. Hayley in his life time, connected with a very few friends of tried honor and character in America, of this number permit me to consider your name and to make you the offer of my best services. My Countinghouse must necessaryly be kept open and the experienced assistance I have there under my direction, with the superior advantages of my situation in life leaves no doubt in my mind of your commands being duly and faithfully executed with the greatest satisfaction to you: I mean not to convey an Idea of going into an extensive trade or of forming any new connexions, this is contrary to my intentions, a small share of business among a few old friends is all I shall aim at, or be willing to engage in and I trust such friends as may be inclinable to accept my offer will explain the nature and probable extent of what they may wish in the connexion with me, in order as much as possible to avoid

any dissatisfaction that may arise from what may appear to be a deviation from the principles on which we may set out. I am with great regard, Sir, your

Obedient & most humble Servant
Mary Hayley.

Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

London, 1st February, 1783.

Dear Sir,

Since my last letter of which you will receive a copy herewith, I have had a meeting with Mr. Brymer upon the subject of your freight, who informed me that it was paid into Chancery, by order of that Court, in a connected state with the Cargo of your ship, in order to satisfy some claim of capture laid against a principal concerned in the said Cargo where it still remains in an undetermined state and perhaps may forever but as I see no reason why your Freight should not be seperated from this predicament, there being no charge against you I will make you an offer of my services on your sending me a sufficient power of attorney to act under and I will then try with as little expence as possible if an order cannot be obtained from the Lord Chancellor for the seperate payment of your Freight. It is a perplexed piece of business and has slept so long that it is a very difficult thing to open an enquiry into it without a proper authority. I heartily congratulate you upon the peace and am with great regard Dear Sir

Your Sincere Friend Obed.t Serv.t
F. Rotch

Thurston and Jenkins to Christopher Champlin

Providence, 25th February, 1783.

Sir,

Your favor with the Ten bbs. Coffee came to hand the 22d Inst. Before its arrival the Brigantine *Commet* discharg'd her Cargo in which is a quantity of the first Quality Coffee which is selling per Bl. at 16*d.* we are inform'd Coffee is not plenty in Boston and the current price from 20*d* to 22*d* lb. As this Market is somewhat gluted at present we think it will be most for your Interest to send it there shall wait your Advice.

The Candles are at 1/6 lb. mould and diped. Cheese not any that we have seen of a good Quality we are waiting for the Price to fall as no Purchasers at present. The full confidence all Ranks of People puts in this News of Peace has stagnated Business exceedingly. Your further Commands will be readily attended too by Your Most Humble Servants.

Thurston and Jenkins

William Tonkin to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, the 12th March, 1783.

Sir,

The finalization of my Partnership as mentioned on the other side gives me an opportunity to address you seperately, and thanking you for the favours which you was pleased to conferr on that establishment I embrace this first opportunity to make you a tender of my services in this place, and express my hopes that you will favor me with your commands whenever you have any business to do this way, and should it be agreeable to you to make me any consignment I offer per return of your Vessel to ship you the Value per Estimate in Wine Salt and Fruit, and in due course I will make as much of your goods as the quality of them and the state and nature of the Market will admit.

For your government Rice and Flour are prohibited here from all parts. Our last harvest of wheat was a great one

and the succeeding promises to be equally abundant, so that it is too dangerous for you to engage in that article. In regard to Indian Corn it is too late in the Season, the months of May and June being the proper time, and is before this Country Crop comes in.

Staves I fear will not meet a ready sale as we have had three scanty Vintages following, and our last saffra of Oil was the same, and these are the articles which give consumption to Staves.

Codfish is an article which meets a Consumption here without the Year and used to be a steady trade from the Ports to the Northward of your Port; the Quality of that fish is also liked here; it will nevertheless be adviseable that every Vessel which comes here with Codfish should report that they are bound to some other place and demand a Franguia, which is for the purpose of effecting a sale on board, free of Duty to the Seller, which is preferable to landing for proprietors Account, besides the great chance under Franguia of selling for exportation also; on receiving a Consignment of this kind I am ready to ship you immediate returns in the articles I have mentioned in the foregoing part of this Letter.

The late sales of Codfish here have been from 4$000 to 4$400 per Portuguese Quintal free on board, but as Peace is reinstated the prices hereafter will lower, as a natural Consequence. I am very respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

William Tonkin

Lisbon white wine . . .	62$ per Pipe
Lemons	3$ per Box
Salt	1$700 per Moy.

Ingraham and Bromfield to Christopher Champlin and George Gibbs

Amsterdam, March 27th, 1783.

Gentlemen,

We wrote you Sept. 17th last at which time we expected the *Betsey* to arrive here every day, but owing to a variety

of adverse circumstances such as were not to be guarded against by us, she did not leave Bergen till 22d February and was drove on shore in a violent Gale about 1st Inst. upon the Schelling Island. As we have given Mr. Daniel Parker all the particulars of this unfortunate Voyage we beg leave to refer you to him. The Brig is now ready to load and will be ready for Sea next week. the extra Expences and unfortunate detention of this Vessel can only be placed to the Account of Error in sending her to Bergen a place so distant from here that the Post who rides night and day is 22 days in performing it. The winter has been such an one as we never knew, almost a continual Storm, and if it will be any consolation for the bad voyage we assure you that it is our opinion that the Brig would not have liv'd thro' a winters passage to America as the weather has been. As soon as the Brig is dispatch'd we shall attend to the making up her Accounts which will be a General Average and whatever Money may come to your share we shall ship you in the articles of your Memorandum by the first Vessel after. we are extreemly sorry that our first Bussiness together should prove so unfortunate and hope it may not discourage you from persuing Bussiness to this place which we think may be conducted to good advantage. we remain with Esteem Gentlemen your most obedient humble Servants,

INGRAHAM AND BROMFIELD

(Copy) Original per the *Cato*, Tappin.

ROBERT AND NATHAN HYDE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Manchester, 9 April, 1783.

Sir,

THE present is to inclose your a/current ballance in our favour £7.3.8 which we hope you will find to be right and will remit the amount on receipt of this not doubting but it wou'd have been done long since but for the late unnatural War. We hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you soon with orders for our Manufactures as formerly, in which case you may depend on being supplied with those of the

best quality and charg'd on the lowest terms. this we shall make a point of doing, waiting the favour of your Commands we remain with much esteem, Sir, Your most obedient Servants

ROBERT AND NATHAN HYDE

P. S. We thank you for your remittances before the unhappy troubles commenced, the small ballance now due you may either remit us or pay to Mr. Jno. Glover of New York, and are oblig'd for all past favours.

ANTONY JOHNSON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir,

YOU was always my good frend. I want you should write to me by the next flag whether you can geet Leave for me and my Wife to com home again to leaf with our Children. I shall be glad you will gett Leaf for my Wife as shee wants to goo to her Mother and Children if you can gett Leave for this favour I shall always acnowlege I am Sir Yours to Serve

ANTONY JOHNSON

N. York, April 14, 1783.

[Memo.] Negro Antonia Johnstons letter.

HEWES AND ANTHONY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Philadelphia, 16th April, 1783.

Dear Sir,

YOUR favour of the 1st Instant came to hand on Monday last, the Contents fully noted; and in order to relieve your anxiety, about your arrangements to the Southward, we tell you that whenever your bills appear they will be honour'd there is plenty of time, and a Variety of ways may be pointed out, to place funds in our hands before it will be wanted, but at present we can advise no method so elligeable and safe as sending the money either round by water, or through New York. of this you can best judge, and make it most convenient to yourself, but in the meantime should any

better plan present to our view, we will without delay communicate it to you. it is impossible to dispose of bills; there are so many now that want to draw money from that Quarter; and Molasses is not much wanted at present, therefore we could not advise much being sent to this Market till the Distillers get underway. we shall be happy to hear of the Arrival of that Vessel. She will make a noble freight in time of Peace, and *they* are fortunate who have such a Vessel *left*. Trade is in a very unsettled State, people are at a loss what to do, and till we have the Commercial Treaty, cant tell what to carry, or where to go. we would wish to give you every Information in our Power, but at present *we must wait for light*, a few months will put us upon a regular footing. Command us whenever you think we can be of Service, and believe us with Sentiments of the highest Esteem, Your Friends and Very Humble Servants,

HEWES AND ANTHONY

MARY HAYLEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 22nd May, 1783.

Sir,

I HAVE received the favor of yours dated the 4th of April inclosing two bills on Parris amounting to 28,000 Livres which are gone forward for acceptance, and I hope will be returned in a few days agreeable to our wishes.[1] I understand the Court of France have ordered lately that no more bills for the supply of their Army in America shall be paid as usual, and indeed it is said by some that they will not be paid at all, or at least untill all Accounts of a public nature are liquidated between that Court and the United States of America, which if true will amount to nearly the same thing; but I expect the fact as it respects these bills will

[1] "Your bills were negotiated on France at the rate of 31*d* 1/16 Sterling for every French crown of three Livres which you will find answer to the sum creditted you, there will be a small brokerage at the rate of two shillings in every hundred pounds settled at the end of the year." *Mary Haley to Christopher Champlin*, July 11, 1783.

turn out to be a prolonging of the time from thirty days after sight to twelve months after sight which will prevent their negociation on the Change of London without a heavy discount of perhaps more than ten per Cent. I am very sorry to be obliged to give you so unpleasant an account of this remittance; if it was my own I think I should be inclined to get clear of them and all future responsibility on their account, upon the best terms — believing there is reason to apprehend that those engagements between France and America that look most like money matters will hardly be soon settled to the satisfaction of both parties. My last Letter to you I have no doubt will be satisfactory as it respects the subject of future business. The Intercourse between Great Britain and America being now quite open your Commands, when I have the honor to receive them will be duly attended to.

The desire that prevails among many of almost all ranks of people in this Country for visiting America will no doubt occasion many applications from Gentlemen to me for introductory Letters to my Friends — in order to prevent any misconstruction of expressions that politeness may require in favour of such who do apply, I only wish my friends may generally understand that if I mean more than personal civilities I will take care to mention it in a manner that cannot be mistaken. I am with great respect, Sir, Your Obedient and humble servant,

MARY HAYLEY

EBENEZER SHEARMAN TO GEORGE CHAMPLIN AND CO.

Chanel of England, June the 10th, 1783.

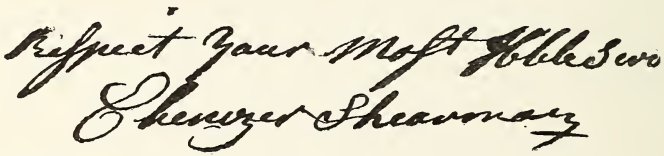
Jentelmen,

THIS may serve to inform you Shearman his Crew and Pasingers are in good helth and my Idol the Brig *Richmond* is tite strong in good order and sails like fish. have spoke a number of Vessels and pass them, as if they ware at anker. Amongst them one Ingia Ship bound to Copenhagen from the Cape of Good hope. Just 9 M[orning?] the Isl of White

bairing North dist. 4 Leagues. I have not received aney pasage Money from Captain Clark nor Captain Sheffield, as some of my owners was for and others against it: and for my part they are welcome from me. that Point can be setled at there Arrival at Newport amongst your selves. have received the 10 Guinnas from the other Passenger Richard Baxbee. at 7 clock afternoon expect to land the Passingers in one hour from this Blithmeston about 16 Leagues to the Eastward of the Isle of White. Jentelmen Adue. I remain Yours to Serve.

EBENEZER SHEARMAN

N. B. if either Captain Minturn or Mr. G. Champlin would be kindanuf to acquaint Mother Rider I am well I would be much obleaged to them.



[Endorsed,] Per favour Captain P. Clark.

MARY HALEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

2 July, 1783.

ABOVE is copy of my last to you via Boston in which you will find the present prices of sundry articles. Trade is at present so very unsettled in regard to those articles that it is impossible to form any true judgment of what the future prices may be. I mention this that you may not be led into an error in speculation as it respects these articles. All Europe seem at present to be much engaged in an attention to their Commercial Interests and the Idea of abolishing all exclusive trade is gaining ground. What events this may produce cannot as yet be seen. I am etc.

MARY HAYLEY

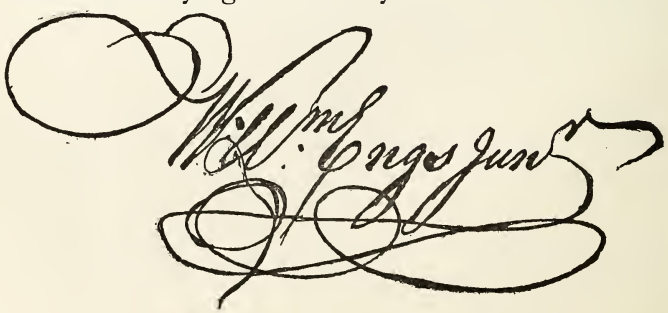
William Engs, Jr. to George Champlin and Co.

Hobbs Hole on Rappahanock, 23d July, 1783.

Gentlemen,

as I wrote you not a Letter but a Vollume by Captain Read least you should think I am too fond of scribling will be a little more concise, but have inclos'd a Letter from Mr. Cooper for your Perrusal by wich you will be able to see what I have to expect from Messrs. Cowper; since I wrote per Captain Read have taken on board 9 or 10 Hhds which makes in all 23. now Gentlemen was I to give my opinion positively I do not expect to get any more for 3 weeks to come and you will naturally think there is but little to expect from James river by the inclos'd Coppy, for Tobacco cannot be bought except for Cash and perhaps not once a week then and the Price for it at Fredricksburg is not yet setled for it is every day dearer and none will sell that can avoid it. I have flatter'd myself for 2 or 3 weeks past with hopes of haveing my orders countermanded but wether you intend that or not am sure that I shall not be able to load here with this Crop Tobacco and the one that is now planted will not be fit untill the ensuing Winter. as for freight there is but verry few men who would wish to ship and those who do seem determind to do it for England and they are deter'd from it for fear the State will not oblige the people who owe money there to pay it so are loth to trust their Property for fear of reprisal. the Method of Freighting here in peacable times is most extraordinary, it is call'd £8 Sterling per Ton and 4 hhds to the Ton and them they git as large as possible so that you have 40/ Sterling perhaps for carrying 14 C. or more of Tobacco to London but I have no freight offers for they still continue saying the old Traders will be here by and by and will sell what we want at low rate to get our freight but I do not believe there is Tobacco enough to load the Vessels that are here except what is been paid in for Taxes which belongs to the Country and to be shipd for France some time or other by the Legislature. there is now in this river 2 french ships a Brigantine and Cutter one American Ship, vizt. Captain Hayden of Boston an English Cutter and my self after Tobacco and an English

Brig arriv'd below to day from St: Thomas's and I verily believe that for many days together the whole does not get a hhd. the price talk'd of at Fredricksburg at present is 28/, but at that you can purchase no Quantity nor perhaps a single hhd: indeed Gentlemen I dispair of giveing you any tolerable Idea of things they are so confus'd as yet in this Country I mean of the Tobacco Trade, for the Peoples Expectations are beyond probability. for my part and I am not singular in my opinion I think who ever sails from here from this time to next year will find on the Eastern side the Atlantic what we do here that the people will not buy because they expect to get cheaper. pardon me Gentlemen I do not mean to dictate to you but take it as you will I can asure you nothing but your Interest makes me say what I do. I therefore beg you would by some means or other let me know how I am to conduct for was the Vessel my own I should instantly sell what Tobacco I have; get some Flour wheat or Corn and return to find a better Market than going with Tobacco at this time. I mention'd you by Captain Read that Mr. Cowper wrote me he had received advice of payment being made of the greater part of your Debt to Hews and Antony and did not doubt ere that time the ballance was paid. as I promis'd not to be so long as my last must conclude with beging you to remember you pay 100 dollars Portage Bill per Month besides Provisions Cabbin stores etc. a Ship saild the other day whose bill of disbursements was £600. mine shall be as small as I can make it with Propriety but you must prepare for the worst for a long one will be a large one and if I eat all my salt Provisions can buy no more here at present. I am with the greatest Sincerity gentlemen your most Obedient Servant,



P. S. please to tell Mr. Slocum I have not yet sold his rum but am striveing to retail it at 3/ per Gallon.

P. S. Captain Ambrose informs me he has no letters from Messrs. Hunters for you which surpris'd me. pray Gentlemen think of something new if possible and not oblige me to lye here till the fever and ague which will soon begin puts it out of my Power to do anything.

EBENEZER SHEARMAN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND CO.

Gothenburg, July the 26th, 1783.

Jentelmen,

WITH pleasure imbrace this Opertunity to inform you of the saif Arrivel of the Brig *Richmond*, at Marstrand, the 21st of June, and at Gothenburg, the 8th of July, in good helth, likewise the holl Crew. Yesterday caim on the Sailes of our Tobacco, sold at publick Oction from four Shillings to six and eight Ronsticks per lb. it is not in my Power to inform you what it will everage at present, as part of the Tobacco is to pay a duty. Therefore shall refer that matter to a more convenient Opertunity. Two of the East India Ships has arriv'd, one yesterday the other whilst I'm righting this, the other Ship is on her Pasage, but was seperrated from thoes two in a Gail of Wind, in the East Indias, but ourly expected. if the other Ship dont arrive soon, I emagin it will retard the Sailes of thoes all reedey arriv'd. Shall refir that Point to Mr. Soderstrom, Likewise in regard to the Price Currant here. I'm in hopes Jentelmen you'll consider Shearmans great Perquisits on this present Voige, which he has agree'd to. You made the Proposall and 2 and ½ Persent I agreed to strike of. Change the Propossall and you'll obleage Shearman and put 2 and ½ on. Captain Magee from Boston is here loaded with Tobacco from Virginnia in a Ship of 500 hhds his Perquisits are 5 per Cent on the Tobacco deliver'd him here, ½ of all Passage Money, ½ Crown Starling per day in Poart, Cabbin stoars found him, and one hundred Guinnias paid him here. Shearman has put his hand to the plow, and will

go thro with his Buisness the saim as if his Perquisits ware eaquel to other People. Jentelmen Adue. I remain yours to serve,

EBENEZER SHEARMAN

N. B. My Tobacco was verry good and but verry little Loss when inspected. Pleas to deliver the inclos'd to Mother Rider.

27th July. I have the agreeable News to inform you the third India Ship has just arriv'd and this day carrean'd my Ship to Baytop her found the Stuff of her Bottom so low down could not come at it therefore have hall'd in to the key to heave her keal out and grave. it gives me pain to find that I shall be at more expense here than I expected, but must submit to your Judgments when the Bills are presented. Adue.

EBENEZER SHEARMAN

MARY HAYLEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 2nd August, 1783.

Sir,

I CONFIRM the foregoing copy of my last respects to you dated 11th July since which I am without any further favors from you. Inclosed you have an Invoice of a few pieces of Cloths and Velverets which to save expence I have had packed with some of Mr. Fowler's goods which I hope will not prove disagreeable to you. The amount being £60.9.1 when the goods are received you will please to note in conformity. Your order being now compleated I have only to hope that the Goods may all come out agreeable and that your future orders may give more time, which is a very material thing and will make a great saving in the expences of carriage and other charges attending the shipping of Goods from this Country; I will just mention for your information that Interest Bills on Franklin at Paris as Commissioner to the united States have just been accepted but not without repeated applications. Rochambeau's Army

Bills are regularly paid. The French squadron Bills I fear will be subject to the Kings Edict of prolongation. I have some of the latter kind lying in France and can get no answer to them. I am etc.

Copy. Original per the *Eleanor*, Henderson.

London, 20th August, 1783.

Sir,

Since the within copy of my last respects I am favoured with yours dated the 15th of last month acknowledging mine dated 22nd May which was soon followed by another containing a more agreeable account of your French bills. The french navy bills mentioned in the Copy for your information are since accepted payable in twelve months from the day they would become due with an allowance of five per Cent interest, but such bills cannot be negociated on the 'Change of London for less than 10 or 11 per Ct. discount which occasions a loss of 5 or 6 per Ct. just as the course of Exchange and the price of such things happen to be. The definitive treaty is not yet signed. nothing can be done in the affair of your freight untill the month of October in the mean time all the necessary preparation will be made.

I am Sir with great respect Your obedient and most humble Servant,

Mary Hayley

[Endorsed,] By the *Minerva*, Pearce.

Wills Cowper and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Suffolk [Virginia], August 28th, 1783.

Sir,

Inclosed is Mr. John Walkers Draft in your favour for $66\frac{2}{7}\frac{4}{2}$ dollars the ballance due you as per Account inclosed we shou'd have been glad to have sent you this Balance per Captain Engs but his laying in Rappahannock made it ill convenient.

The rum and oyl ship us by Captain Cooke, we have not to this moment collected one shilling from, the oil remains

an open Account, the rum is bonded in Tobacco which we have commenced suit for and may probably recover next May payment, when Tobacco may again be at 20/ per Ct. so that we are very considerably in advance on account of your small Sales. Shou'd you see Mr. Walker he can well inform you of our distressed Situation in this Country, he has met with a very full share of disappointments in this State tho' on the Spot the whole time to transact his own business. Tobacco has been as high as 35/ but has fallen within 10 days to 28/. below you have the prices current. we have only to assure you of our best wishes to render you any services in this State and are very Respectfully, Sir, Your Most Obedient Humble Servants,

WILLS COWPER AND CO.

Prices Current

Jas. River Tobacco	28/	Turpentine	12/ to 15/.
Rappahannock do	22/6	Dry goods 65 to 75 per Ct. on Sterling Cost.	
Flour fine . .	32/6 per bll. 196 lb.	Exchange 33⅓ per Ct. on London.	
Tar	8/. to 10/.	with France 5/7 to 5/9 for 5 Livres Torneau.	

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

My dear Sir,

THE happy termination of the peace enables me to open a correspondence with you, from which I promise myself both pleasure and advantage; the critical nature of the War hath hitherto prevented it but I am now at full liberty to felicitate both you and myself upon my marriage with your niece and you may receive my Letters without any treasonable imputation. Tho an event of some standing, it hath all the charms of novelty to me, and I am sure will preserve its complexion as long as we live.

I receive a particular degree of satisfaction from the agreeable accounts your good Lady has given of your family; and I hope the settlement of the two eldest, in a manner perfectly agreeable to your most sanguine expectations is

not far distant, and my dear Tempe unites with me in our earnest wishes that the Almighty may crown them with the blessing of happiness and the choicest gifts of fortune.

I feel myself a little disposed to speculate in American property, and particularly in the province of New York; But at the same time am so ignorant of its value, or price, that I am utterly at a loss concerning the purchase. I apprehend the sale of the late Coll. Philips Estate at Philipsburgh will speedily take place, and in case his Dwelling house upon the Manor, and ten thousand acres round it (no part being more than three miles distant from Hudson's River) could be bought for 20,000 Spanish Dollars or five thousand pounds Sterling I would make the purchase. I suppose that two thirds of the Land would be fit for arable and I believe a good part of it is let on lease. I mean by arable fit for Wheat, Flax or Indian Corn. There is no person in America that I would trust with this intention, or the execution but yourself, in whom I repose the greatest confidence and entertain the greatest respect and regard. If you have the goodness to accept this Commission from me, and on my part, to make this purchase provided it be advantageous, you will be pleased to draw on me for either of the beforementioned sums at 100 days sight. I understand the Estate to be freehold and a good title to be made out by the Province.

Affairs in this Country are going on as usual. Industry which is the very soul of prosperity pervades every part, and none but the idle and profligate want comfort and ease. The Girls are made easy by the circumstances of their brothers, and nothing is wanting to render them entirely happy, but the reflection that the friends of their infancy and youth are left behind.

I feel the most perfect affection for Mrs. Champlin, your Son and Daughters. Impress them I entreat you with the sentiments they should entertain for me, and my Tempe who joins in duty to her Grandmama and love to your family and friends. Remain with a very sincere attach-

ment, My dear Sir, Your faithful Friend and Most humble Servant,

Harpur Street, London, Sept. 5th, 1783. WILL GREEN

P. S. I would have my name remain a secret throughout the whole affair.

DUNCAN INGRAHAM, JUNIOR TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND GEORGE GIBBS

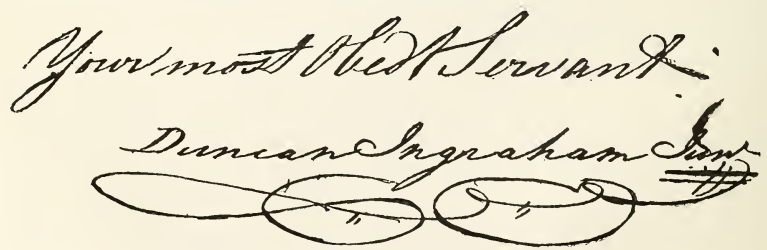
Amsterdam, 18th September, 1783.

Gentlemen,

YOUR favor of June 10th is receiv'd and am verry sorry that Mr. Daniel Parker has not acquainted you with the Steps my late House took with the *Betsey* and their Reasons for it, all of which he was furnish'd with in a very ample manner. And in a Letter I lately received from Messrs. Guild and Co. who conducts Mr. Parker's Business; they say, "That we have shewn the Papers to all the Owners of the *Betsey* and they appear perfectly satisfied with your Conduct." You may see by the Papers sent Mr. Parker why she did not arrive here sooner.

The Idea of getting 100 per Cent more for her Cargo in Bergen than it brought here must have been taken from the 2nd Mates Account who was not capable of his Duty as a Seaman, much less so to give an Account of Markets.

Our House did their Duty and, being Owners, suffer'd equally with you. There is a Balance due me by the Owners of *f*3154.14 Cy which Account Mr. Parker has. I regret the bad Voyage the Vessel made but am persuaded that no Person could do more than was done to prevent it. I am Gentlemen with esteem and respect



George Rome to Christopher Champlin

London, 24th October, 1783.

Sir,

After my congratulatory Compliments on the return of Peace and Ratification of the Definitive Treaty with America, I embrace the earliest opportunity to transmit the annexed Letter from Mr. Stead and his Assignees,[1] by which you will discover all Mr. Steads Estates and Effects in America have fallen into my hands, and that I must submit to the final Event of them: And as there is a Ballance due to Mr. Steads Estate by your Brother-in-Law, Robert Jenkins Junior, Deceased, per Note, which, with Interest thereon, amounts now to upwards of £70 Stg. I have to desire you will pay to my attorneys at Newport, or to Stephen Greenleaf Esqr. of Boston, on my account, Mr. Steads proportion of such Devidends as already have, or may hereafter arrise from Mr. Jenkin's Estate; and should Mr. Greenleaf be of opinion that a Quitclaim from, or a reconveyance by Mr. Jenkins's Heirs, or Executors, etc., will be necessary to secure me in the Rutland Mortgage as described in Mr. Stead and his Assignee's Letter, I am to desire you will conform to whatever he may find necessary to be done therein. Address me to the care of Messrs. Lane and Frazer, and in the hope of hearing from you in course, I remain, with Compliments to Mrs. Champlin, Respectfully Sir, Your Most Obedient, and Most Humble Servant

Geo. Rome

Elkanah Watson[2] to George Gibbs and Christopher Champlin

London, 30th December, 1783.

Gentlemen,

From the probability that this will be the last letter I shall do myself the honour of writing from Europe, I am

[1] Page 100, *supra.*

[2] Elkanah Watson (1758–1842) came from Plymouth, Mass., served under John Brown of Providence and went abroad during the War of Independence, when he lost his property. He returned to the United States in 1784 and settled in Albany, N. Y. See his *Men and Times of the Revolution.*

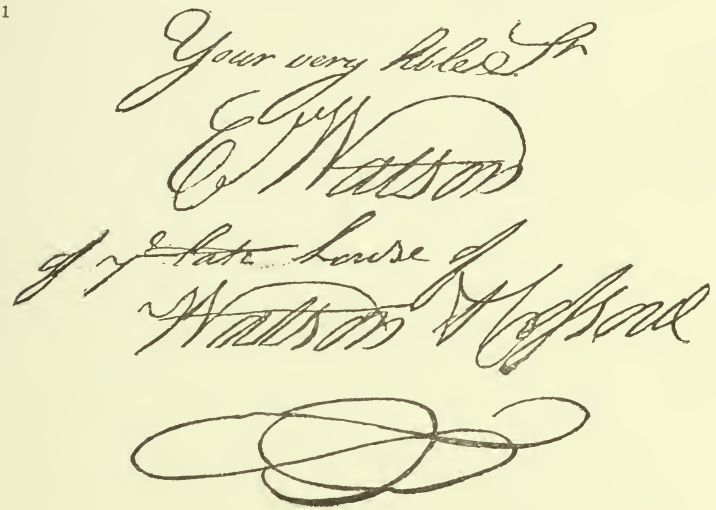
induc'd to claim your indulgence for a moment, to communicate my present unpleasant situation, and the extraordinary train of hard fortune that has precipitated us in it. In short Gentlemen we are inevitably ruin'd, and both our European establishments crushd into non-existence; we have struggled hard with many of our countrymen since the event of peace, and defended ourselves to the last; but rigorous destiny determin'd upon our fall overpowr'd every effort, and oblig'd us sullenly to submit to her rash decrees.

For this nine months we have scarcely receiv'd a letter from any quarter of the world where our operations extended but what contain'd a fresh link to add to our chain of unparralleld misfortunes; from the months of August to November our Nantes establishment alone sustain'd a dead loss of three hundred and sixteen thousand livers; whether from the natural effects of peace; from the failure of the public bank at Paris; our own bankers; or private merchants; the number of which is frightful, and what at no period of the existence of France was ever known to equal, within the same time.

As to my establishment in this City, I had resources for continuing yet for several months; but notwithstanding our house at Nantes is protected by the kings edict, yet our french creditors threatned to pursue me in London; which obliges me to fly to a place of assylum to avoid an arrest; the creditors of both houses have been call'd together, and we find their demands are about one million of livers, equal to about £40,000 Sterling; we are in hopes however to secure them a handsome dividend; and are determin'd in the course of the winter to wind up with honour; after which I mean to return to my native country early in the spring; and begin the world again with no other capital but integrity; industry, and dear bought experience which is the bitter fruits of several years unremitted application: however I do not despair, knowing the field in which I am to act is copious, and holds out inviting prospects even for naked industry to build on.

I am well aware of the general stigma that falls upon failures; in some cases it is just, in others cruel. I am sure no generous mind after reading this letter will suffer such an impression to penetrate his breast to my prejudice; if so, what I at present suffer is a bubble in comparison to the sickening idea of being receiv'd into the bosom of my country under such colours: a liberal merchant will generously divest himself of ancient prejudice, spurn the idea, and rather commiserate my fate; which at least ought to be our reward, for considerable sums we have liberally distributed in our prosperity to eleviate the distresses of our unfortunate countrymen in captivity.

Hoping to present my personal respects some day upon the other side of the Atlantic, I am most respectfully, Gentlemen,[1]



Received and forwarded by Your Friend,

Welcome Arnold

Policy of Insurance

Be it Remembered, That Messrs. Sam'l Fowler, and Christopher Champlin of Newport Merchants as well in their own Name as for and in the Name and Names of all and

[1] Watson's son was named Winslow Cossoul Watson.

every other Person or Persons to whom the same doth, may, or shall appertain, in Part or in all, doth make Assurance, and causeth themselfs, and them, and every of them, to be insured, lost or not lost, the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds Law. Mo. on Merchandize on Board the Brigantine, *Don Galvez* at and from Newport, Rhode Island, to Dublin in Ireland, whereof is Master, for this present Voyage, Charles Swain, or whosoever else shall go for Master in the said Vessel, or by whatsoever other Name or Names the said Vessel or the Master thereof is or shall be named or called; beginning the Adventure upon the said Merchandize, from Newport, Rhode Island, as aforesaid, and to continue and endure the Voyage aforesaid, and until said Vessel shall be arrived and moored at Anchor Twenty-four Hours in safety, at Dublin in Ireland. And it shall be lawful for the Vessel, &c. in this Voyage, in Case of Extremity and Distress, to proceed and sail to, and touch at any Ports or Places whatsoever, without Prejudice to this Insurance: Touching the Adventures and Perils which we the Assurers are contented to bear, and do take upon us in this Voyage; they are of the Seas, Men of War, Fire, Enemies, Pirates, Rovers, Thieves, Jettizons, Letters of Mart and Counter-Mart, Surprizals, Takings at Sea, Arrests, Restraints and Detainments of all Kings, Princes and People, of what Nation, Condition, or Quality soever; Barratry of the Master (unless the Assured be Owner of said Vessel) and Mariners, and of all other Perils, Losses and Misfortunes that have, or shall come to the Hurt, Detriment or Damage of the said Merchandize or any Part thereof. And in Case of any Loss or Misfortune, it shall be lawful for the Assureds, their Factors, Servants, and Assigns, to sue, labour and travel for, in and about the Defence, Safeguard, and Recovery of said Merchandize or any Part thereof, without Prejudice to this Insurance; to the Charges whereof the Assurers will contribute each one according to the Rate and Quantity of his Sum herein assured. And that in Case of an Average Loss not exceeding ten *per Cent.* the Assurers, by Agreement with the Assured, are not to pay or allow any Thing towards such

BE IT REMEMBERED, That Messrs. Daniel Fowler,
and Christopher Champlin of Newport Merchants

as well in their own Name as for and in the Name and Names of all and every other Person or Persons to whom the same doth, may, or shall appertain, in Part or in all, doth make Assurance, and causeth themselves, and them, and every of them, to be insured, lost or not lost, the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds Lawfull

in the Commonwealth of MASSACHUSETTS, January the 29. 1784

N.B. The above Merchandize is Shipped

£300 Isaiah Doane Three hundred Pounds Lawfull
300 John Winslow Three hundred Pounds Lawfull
100 Crowell Hatch One hundred Pound
100 Simeon Mayo One Hundred Pounds Lawfull

£800 Lawfull Money Solid Coin

every other Person or Persons to whom the same doth, may, or shall appertain, in Part or in all, doth make Assurance, and causeth themselfs, and them, and every of them, to be insured, lost or not lost, the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds Law. Mo. on Merchandize on Board the Brigantine, *Don Galvez* at and from Newport, Rhode Island, to Dublin in Ireland, whereof is Master, for this present Voyage, Charles Swain, or whosoever else shall go for Master in the said Vessel, or by whatsoever other Name or Names the said Vessel or the Master thereof is or shall be named or called; beginning the Adventure upon the said Merchandize, from Newport, Rhode Island, as aforesaid, and to continue and endure the Voyage aforesaid, and until said Vessel shall be arrived and moored at Anchor Twenty-four Hours in safety, at Dublin in Ireland. And it shall be lawful for the Vessel, &c. in this Voyage, in Case of Extremity and Distress, to proceed and sail to, and touch at any Ports or Places whatsoever, without Prejudice to this Insurance: Touching the Adventures and Perils which we the Assurers are contented to bear, and do take upon us in this Voyage; they are of the Seas, Men of War, Fire, Enemies, Pirates, Rovers, Thieves, Jettizons, Letters of Mart and Counter-Mart, Surprizals, Takings at Sea, Arrests, Restraints and Detainments of all Kings, Princes and People, of what Nation, Condition, or Quality soever; Barratry of the Master (unless the Assured be Owner of said Vessel) and Mariners, and of all other Perils, Losses and Misfortunes that have, or shall come to the Hurt, Detriment or Damage of the said Merchandize or any Part thereof. And in Case of any Loss or Misfortune, it shall be lawful for the Assureds, their Factors, Servants, and Assigns, to sue, labour and travel for, in and about the Defence, Safeguard, and Recovery of said Merchandize or any Part thereof, without Prejudice to this Insurance; to the Charges whereof the Assurers will contribute each one according to the Rate and Quantity of his Sum herein assured. And that in Case of an Average Loss not exceeding ten *per Cent.* the Assurers, by Agreement with the Assured, are not to pay or allow any Thing towards such

BE IT REMEMBERED, That Messrs. Daniel Souder, and Christopher Champlin of Newport Merchants

as well in their own Name as for and in the Name and Names of all and every other Person or Persons to whom the same doth, may, or shall appertain, in Part or in all, doth make Assurance, and causeth themselves, and them, and every of them, to be insured, lost or not lost, the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds Lawfull

on Merchandize on Board the Brigantine, Don Galvez

At & from Newport Rhode Island to Dublin in Ireland

whereof is Master, for this present Voyage, Charles Swain ——— *or whosoever else shall go for Master in the said Vessel, or by whatsoever other Name or Names the said Vessel or the Master thereof is or shall be named or called; beginning the Adventure upon the said* Merchandize From Newport Rhode Island *as aforesaid, and to continue and endure the Voyage aforesaid, and until said Vessel shall be arrived and moored at Anchor Twenty-four Hours in safety.*

at Dublin in Ireland

And it shall be lawful for the Vessel, &c. in this Voyage, in Cases of Extremity and Distress, to proceed and sail to, and touch at any Ports or Places whatsoever, without Prejudice to this Insurance: Touching the Adventures and Perils which we the Assurers are contented to bear, and do take upon us in this Voyage; they are of the Seas, Men of War, Fire, Enemies, Pirates, Rovers, Thieves, Jettizons, Letters of Mart and Counter-Mart, Surprizals, Takings at Sea, Arrests, Restraints and Detainments of all Kings, Princes, and People, of what Nation, Condition, or Quality soever; Barratry of the Master (unless the Assured be Owner of said Vessel) and Mariners, and of all other Perils, Losses and Misfortunes that have, or shall come to the Hurt, Detriment or Damage of the said Merchandize ——— or any Part thereof. And in Case of any Loss or Misfortune, it shall be lawful for the Assureds, their Factors, Servants, and Assigns, to sue, labour and travel for, in and about the Defence, Safeguard, and Recovery of said Merchandize ——— or any Part thereof, without Prejudice to this Insurance; to the Charges whereof the Assurers will contribute each one according to the Rate and Quantity of his Sum herein assured. And that in Case of an Average Loss not exceeding Ten *per Cent.* the Assurers, by Agreement with the Assured, are not to pay or allow any Thing towards such Loss. And in Case of any Loss the Money to be paid in Thirty Days after Proof of the same. And it is agreed by us the Insurers, that this Writing or Policy of Assurance shall be of as much Force and Effect as the surest Writing or Policy of Assurance heretofore made in *Lombard-Street*, or in the *Royal-Exchange*, or elsewhere in LONDON. And so we the Assurers are contented, and do hereby promise and bind ourselves, each one for his own Part, our Heirs, Executors and Goods, to the Assureds, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for the true Performance of the Premises, confessing ourselves paid the Consideration due unto us for this Assurance by the Assureds, at and after the Rate of

Three Pounds p Cent

And in Case of any Dispute arising thereupon, the Matter in Controversy shall be submitted to, and decided by Referees chosen by each Party, agreeable to the Rules and Customs in LONDON.

Bread, Corn, Flax-Seed, Fish, Salt, Hemp, Hides, Skins, and such Goods as are esteemed perishable, are warranted free from Average, unless a general Average, or the Vessel stranded.

IN WITNESS *whereof, We the Assurers have subscribed our Names and Sums assured, in* Boston *in the Commonwealth of* MASSACHUSETTS, January the 29. 1784

N.B. The above Merchandize is Shipped

£300 Isaiah Doane Three hundred Pounds L.M.

300 John Winsor Three hundred Pounds L.M.

100 Crowell Hatch One hundred Pound

100 Simson Mayo One Hundred Pounds Lawf.

£800 Lawfull Money Solid Coin

Loss. And in Case of any Loss the Money to be paid in Thirty Days after Proof of the same. And it is agreed by us the Insurers, that this Writing or Policy of Assurance shall be of as much Force and Effect as the surest Writing or Policy of Assurance heretofore made in *Lombard-Street*, or in the *Royal-Exchange*, or elsewhere in LONDON. And so we the Assurers are contented, and do hereby promise and bind ourselves, each one for his own Part, our Heirs, Executors and Goods, to the Assureds, their Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, for the true Performance of the Premises, confessing ourselves paid the Consideration due unto us for this Assurance by the Assureds, at and after the Rate of Three Pounds per Cent. And in Case of any Dispute arising hereupon, the Matter in Controversy shall be submitted to, and decided by Referees chosen by each Party, agreeable to the Rules and Customs in LONDON.

Bread, Corn, Flax-Seed, Fish, Salt, Hemp, Hides, Skins, and such Goods as are esteemed perishable, are warranted free from Average, unless a general Average, or the Vessel stranded.

IN WITNESS *whereof, We the Assurers have subscribed our Names and Sums assured, in* Boston *in the Commonwealth of* MASSACHUSETTS, January the 29, 1784.

N. B. The above Merchandize is Flaxseed.

£300 ISAIAH DOANE, Three hundred pounds L. My.
300 JOHN COFFIN JONES, Three hundred pounds L. My.
100 CROWELL HATCH, One hundred pound
100 SIMEON MAYO, One hundred pounds L. My.
£800 Lawfull Money Solid Coin.

[On the back of the sheet]

Newport 18 February 1784 rec'd of Chris. Champlin, Twelve pounds 3/. in full of his half within premium. £12: 3. SAM'L FOWLER.

[Memo.] No. 299.
Messrs. Fowler & Champion, etc.
Prem'o 3 per Cr. £24.--
Policy 6
£24. 6
Pay Mr. Jacob Rd. Reivere
Rec'd Boston, Janu[ary] 29, 1784.
M. M. Hays.

WINTHROP, TOD AND WINTHROP TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, So. Carolina, February 10th, 1784.

Sir,

WE should have ourselves the honor to have addressed you long before this day, had it not happened that altho' our J. Tod sail'd from Philadelphia on the 23rd October he did not reach us earlier than the 6th Inst. owing to the extreme bad and tempestuous weather which the vessel he was aboard of, experienced upon this Coast, and by it compell'd to desist from the attempt of getting here, and to repair to the West Indies; during this time our J. Winthrop was much busied in the making of Shipments to Europe for account of our Friends. These circumstances we beg leave to offer to you, for our apology in not addressing you earlier, and we shall hope, that you will not impute our silence to any other cause.

There is supposed to be from 80 a 100,000 Barrels Rice and about a million of pounds weight of Indico of the present Crops made, and but little of either shipp'd off — the former still supports the extravagant price of 13/6 a 14/6 per Cwt. and the latter 3 a 4/8 per lb.

Freights to Europe are from 50 a 65/. Stg. per Ton, say for 2240 li. of neat Rice and few Vessels now in port to charter.

You will please to notice that the Currency of this State is now reduced to Sterling, and a half Johannes passes for 37/4, and English Guinea 21/9, a French do. 21/5, and a Dollar 4/8.

We shall be happy in being favoured with the pleasure of hearing from you as often as agreeable, and in return we will with much pleasure avail ourselves of every convenient conveyance to furnish you with the state of this market for your government. At the same time we take the liberty to tender you our best services here, with assurances of making it our study to prove ourselves worthy of your confidence. Being very respectfully, Sir, Your Most Obedient Servants,

WINTHROP, TOD AND WINTHROP

Charleſtown, (South-Carolina) July 1ſt, 1783.

WE take the Liberty to inform you, that we have eſtabliſhed a Houſe in this City, with intent to execute the Commands which our Friends may be pleaſed to honour us with, whether in the Sales of Conſignments ; Purchaſes of Cargoes, or the procuring Freights for Veſſels.

And, we ſhall eſteem ourſelves happy in an early Opportunity of proving to you, by the moſt aſſiduous Exertions and ſtricteſt Punctuality, how much we wiſh to merit your Confidence.

Underneath you have our different Signatures, to which we crave your Attention, and are with Eſteem,

Your moſt obedient, humble Servants,

Winthrop Todd & Winthrop

The following are the Signatures of your moſt humble Servants,

Jos. Winthrop

Todd

Thom. L. Winthrop

Firm, Winthrop Todd & Winthrop

do. Winthrop Todd & Winthrop

do Winthrop Todd Winthrop

Christopher Champlin Rep. Secr. Port.

P. S. Pray make my respectful compliments acceptable to your good Lady, Mrs. Grant, Miss Champlin and family. I hope you will excuse my sending you a Postcript only and not a letter, but this vessel is on the wing of departing for Boston. I am Yours respectfully,

J. Tod

Reuben Harvey to Christopher Champlin

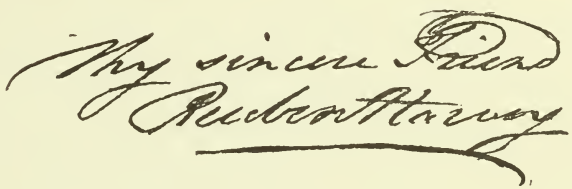
Cork, February 18th, 1784.

Esteemed Friend,

I wrote to thee and Partners the 14th via Hallifax acquainting of Captain Sheffield's arrival here. He is now ready to embrace the first fair wind for London. At present it is quite contrary. No price is yet broke for Flaxseed, and until we know how the North of Ireland will be supply'd, there can't be a true judgment formed of the prices here; I shall keep you regularly inform'd of my proceedings in the sale of the cargoe per *Enterprize*, and shall do my utmost to give thee and the other Owners entire satisfaction. I have not time by this opportunity to answer fully thy Querys, nor indeed are our Laws yet compleat with respect to Trade with America. however an Act of Parliament has lately pass'd allowing your Vessels and Cargoes to be enter'd at our Custom Houses and discharged, without producing any Clearance Document or other paper whatever. Your Ships can be sold without any Duty, but they are not permitted in the West Indies to land Irish produce or manufactures, tho' they may load such articles in Ireland. We can export all kinds of Woollen and other goods to America either in the Vessels of that Country or of Britain. Rum from America can be imported here at the same duty payable on Rum from the British West Indies, viz. 2/11 per gallon; If ever thou or thy friends shou'd ship any here, let it be of superior strength to the general run of New England Rum, which is too weak and ill flavour'd for this Market; besides, it is a loss to import weak Spirit which pays as high a duty as the strong. I fear our Parliament will not grant Bountys on Flaxseed or Naval Stores. There is a Bounty

of 1½*d* per yard on all Linnens of the value of 13*d* or under 18*d* per yard, exported to America. They are made in the North of Ireland and can be purchased to most advantage at the Linen Hall in Dublin, from whence we get them bro't here by land at a small expence. American Flaxseed commands a preference of sale.

The Manufactures of this place and neighbourhood consist chiefly of coarse Woollens, Serges, Flannels, Blanketting, common Stockings, Cottons, Jeans, Fustians, Sail Cloth, Canvas, Coarse Linnens, Oznabrugs, Shoes and Boots, with many other articles. Very good Loaf Sugar can be exported on as cheap terms as from England. I am with great regard ·



New Mess Beef 42/ } per barrel.
Do. Do. Pork 39/ }
Butter 60/ per Ct.
Mold Candles 5½*d* per lb.
James River Tobacco 20*d* to 2/ per lb. } Duty 11*d* per lb.
Ordinary Tobacco 14*d* to 16. }

Mary Hayley to Christopher Champlin

London, 11th March, 1784.

Sir,

I DULY received your favours of the 30th October and 3rd November last, the former of which contained an order for sundry Goods which are shipp'd on board the *Mary* Captain Macy. and I hope will come out more to your satisfaction than those shipp'd the last year. I have directed that every attention be paid to all the particulars you have thought right to mention, and I shall think myself unfortunate if you have cause a second time to complain. With respect to an increase of the terms of credit from 9 to 12

months, it is a thing I shall always object to and upon this principle that Mr. Hayley I think I may say gave as much satisfaction to his Correspondents as any Merchant in London could do, and I have set out with no other profession but that of doing business upon the same terms that he did, and this principle I must beg leave to be permitted to adhere to, with this observation only that there is no Country where the value of good pay among tradesmen is better known or understood than in this. My situation makes it unnecessary for me to yield to any house whatever in this particular consequently it will be very difficult for me to believe, knowing my intentions and conduct to be fair and honourable that any house in this City can ship Goods or serve their Friends with more ultimate advantage to them than I can. It is my intention to leave England in a few days in the *United States*, Captain Scott, for Boston and among the arrangements that are to take place during my absence I can with pleasure inform my Friends that Mr. Alexander Champion, Junior, of this City has accepted the principal Agency and conducting my affairs while I am abroad. This Gentleman is eldest Son of the Senior of the present house of Champion and Dickason; his knowledge and abilities stand in need of no comment here. I am sure my Friends will find the greatest satisfaction in him. With respect to your Freight Mr. Rotch has proceeded in Chancery for the recovery of it the opposite party have taken all the time the Law will allow them; but the Attorney who conducts the business assures Mr. R. that the money is safe and must be paid and he hopes before long. It is impossible to say what system may be adopted by this Country relative to Commerce with America a friendly or unfriendly administration in the Government here makes the whole difference. The contest which has subsisted between the two great parties for some months has in fact put a stop to almost all public business, appears at present not so violent as it was, but how it will end it is impossible to say. I am with great respect, Sir, Your obedient and most humble Servant,

MARY HAYLEY

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 13th March, 1784.

Gent.,

This day I was favord with your esteemed Letter of the 26th January inclosing me bill Lading for 319 Casks of 7 Bushels each 4 do. of 5 do. 4 do. of 3½ do. Flaxseed per the Brigantine *Dungalviz*, Captain Swain, with directions to remit the Nett Proceeds to Mrs. Mary Hely in London to whose recommendation I am indebted for the favor of your Correspondence. You may rest assured that I shall dispose of this consignment to the best advantage for your Interest and as the proceeds comes in Cash shall remit the same as you direct. This letter I send under cover to Mrs. Healey to forward you and in a few days shall reply more particularly to the Contents of your letter.

There are several Cargoes of Flaxseed already arrived here from America and one Vessell came in this day with Seed from New York and if the quantity arrives that is expected from America I fear there will be money lossed by it. There has been a few Hhds sold at 60/ and some at 65/, yet its impossible to say now how the price may rule; it intirely depends upon what may come to Market. All the products of America are admitted in here. Tobacco at 11*d* per lb. duty, The price of Virginia is from 17*d* at 20*d* per lb. Maryland Tobacco dont answer well here. fine white pearl Ashes at 47/6, Pott Ashes of Grey at 48/ to 50/ per Ct. Ashes pay no duty and the other american products very small duties. Your Rum wont answer here. Barrel Staves £5.10 to £6.10 per Thousand. Referring you to my Next I am Gent. Your Most Obedient Servant,

Edward Forbes

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 10th April, 1784.

Gent.,

I have now the satisfaction to inform you that I have sold all your Flaxseed, except (25 Hhds and the 8 small Casks;) at 58/ 60/ and a few at 63/ per hogshead — a better price then any have been sold at hitherto in any Port in the Kingdom, and expect in a few days to put off the remainder. the small Casks are not quite so saleble as Hhds, and let me recommend to you not to ship any Seed in any Casks that do not contain either 7 Bushels, or $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. I must get your 5 Bushel Casks put into Hhds. your Seed looks as well as any that came here this Season indeed better then any that came from Philadelphia, therefore let me reccommend *to you* in future to ship the best kind and have it well cleaned, for in a Glutted market Good Bright well Cleaned Seed will always have a prefference. as Messrs. Carey and Green did not send me Certificate for their Seed being of last years, sold it on Condition to return the money if it did not grow, yet theirs look'd as well as yours; but if it did not Grow and that I sold it for Sowing, I should be lyable to pay a Penalty of £3 per hhds, so Severe are the Laws, and as it look'd as well as yours I thought it most for their interest to do as I did then sell it at Auction where it would not have fetched more than 25/ to 30/ per hhds for oil. I am well pleased with myself for selling so quick as I did, as Philadelphia Seed is to day at 56/ and two Vessels hourly expected from New York with 1800 hogsheds.

The principal part of what I sold is at one and two months Credit. what Cash I have received will not amount to the freight, and as soon as I come in Cash you may depend I shall punctually remit conformable to your orders to Mrs. Mary Heyley of London. Captain Swain the night after he arrived drag'd his Anchors and got on a bank where the vessel strained and made much water, however fortunately only a few Casks got damage which I had opend and the

wet fill'd half a barel. his Vessel is now repaird and will proceed for Lisbon in a few days. She is too sharp for this Harbour. I should have sent some of your seed to the Outports but the Markets hitherto was under our's. As your State is now as free and independant *as our own*, I hope our Commercial intercourse will increase daily, and on my part I shall you may depend studdy to promote it. Our infant Manufactures of every kind are daily improving and increasing, which consist of all sorts of Goods made as in Manchester, Coarse frizes, flanels, Rateens, Shallons, Durants, and *Morains and Worsted and Silk Goods* the best in Europe, and our Linnens I need not tell you are rivald by none, and cheaper then can be shipt from London from whence hitherto America was supply'd. but one Great barr to our enlargeing our Trade with you, is, our Poverty in not being able to give the long Credits the Manufacturers do in England. here however the prices are proportionably low, and for ready money there is a discount for 2, 4 and 6 Months given at the rate of 6 per Ct. per annum. We have also an extensive Glass Manufacture here and Window Glass in particular is 1/2*d* per foot cheaper then at Bristol and flater myself will be found equal in quality indeed some kind is 1*d* a foot cheaper.

Our Parliment is desirous to give the American States all possible Encouragement to trade with us, and as an instance they lowered the duty on Tobacco to 11*d*, in England 15*d* is paid, and all your *Goods* and *products* are allow'd to be imported and remain here for *a Market* 6 Months without paying any other Expence or Charge then that of Storage. But by the English Navigation Act, which is adopted, here your Vessels will not be allow'd to bring West india produce nor the Produce of any Foreign Nation, but that of America, say the Products of the Thirteen United States may be brought in any of your Vessels, and there is No duty paid on any of America Produce, except 11*d* on Tobacco and 2*d* per barel (of $4\frac{1}{4}$ Bushels) of Wheat. this latter article will be allow'd only to be sold here when the price of our own Wheat exceeds 30/ a barel that weighs 280 pounds, tho'

it may be stored as I before observed in the King's Stores, untill the price here exceeds 30/, when it may be sold or sent to a better Market. as to Flour it will not be allow'd to be imported. this is done by Parliment to encourage the Mills, which are numerous here, and are principally owned by their Members. There is expectation that a treaty of Commerce will shortly be concluded between the United States and Great Britain in which this Kingdom will no doubt be included, and untill this Buisiness is finally concluded its impossible to say what further privilages will be allow'd the Shiping of the United States, but the General opinion here is, that your Vessels will be allow'd the same privilages as when you were under the Dominion of Britton. however a little time will tell us more of this buisiness. in the interim I beg leave to conclude, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

EDW'D FORBES

[Endorsed,] Via New York.

New York, June 10, 1784.

Rec'd and forwarded by Gentlemen your very humble servants

MURRAY MUMFORD AND BOWEN

REUBEN HARVEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND OTHERS

Cork, 15 April, 1784.

Esteemed Friends,

I ACQUAINTED you with Capt. Sheffield's arrival here the 14th February by way of Philadelphia, and may now inform that he got to London early last Month, having been supply'd by me with 70 Guineas and some Provisions for the Enterprize amounting to £97.11.11 as per Invoice furnish'd him. Flaxseed is a bad article this year owing to too great quantitys being poured in upon us from various parts of America, which has reduced the price so low as 48/ per hhd. and I'm inform'd that some Seed from New London is sold still lower; I have disposed of about 150 hhds. at 50/ and 49/. per hhd., and 38 hhds. of damaged Seed ar 42/ which is a great price

for such, it being generally sold at 30/ per hhd. only; You may depend that my best endeavours shall be used to get off the whole of your Cargoe this season, and not keep any 'till the next, but indeed I fear some Seed must remain unsold. Referring to my next I remain with regard, Your real Friend,

REUBEN HARVEY

New Mess Beef . . . 43/
---Cargo Do. . . . 36/
---Mess Pork . . . 45/
---Cargo Do. . . . 40/
No new Butter yet come in.
MoldCandles . . . 5/6
Dipt Do. 5/3
} per dozen pounds

There has been lately a Glass Manufactory established at Waterford about 60 Miles from hence, which for goodness of Metal and Cheapness of prices is allowed to equal if not excel those in England. I am constantly supplied with that article for the convenience of American Vessels to my Address.

MEMORANDUM OF THE "HYDRA"

More especially to equip and fit our [my] Ship the *Hydra* (now lying in the River Thames in Great Britain) completely for the Sea, with Provisions and Stores requisit for the prosecution of her intended Voyage to the Kingdom of Bengal in India. And also to procure and purchase in Great Britain or else where a complete assorted Cargo, of such Merchandise, as with the advice of experienced Merchants, may be judged most saleable at Bengal. And with said Ship and her Cargo so equip'd, proceed to such Port of the Kingdom of Bengal in India as he may be admitted to an entry, and from thence to the port of Canton in China, and at both or either of those Dominions to sell and dispose of said Ships Cargo of Merchandise, in as full and effectual manner as I the said Constituent might do were I personally present, the Proceeds whereof to be invested in such merchandise Produce or Manufactures of said Countreys, as upon the best information he shall judge most profitable

for the American Market, to where he must return with said Ship and Cargo, Conformable to Instructions received from the Constituent.

Memo. Copy of Special Clause in my Letter Attorney to Mr. Green. April 29, 1784.

N. B. the full Power is recorded in the City Records by Peleg Barker Junior.

The Ship "Hydra"

Articles of Agreement between Christopher Champlin Esq. of Newport in the State of Rhode Island in America, and William Green Esqr. of the City of London. Witnesseth:

That the said William Green, proposing to send a certain Ship of his called the *Hydra*, to Bengal in India, (now lying in the River Thames) burthen by Register three hundred Tons, — means to perform the same, under cover of an American house, whose name must be used for the Proforma, through the whole Transaction, and the Ship of course to be navigated under American Colors, has therefore sold, and conveyed the said Ship *Hydra*, with all her equipage, unto the said Christopher Champlin, by a certain bill of Sale executed for that end on the Twenty fifth day of April, One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty four, in consequence of which, he the said Christopher Champlin has, in his own name, as sole Owner thereof, taken out a Register for the said Ship, at the Intendants Office of Trade, in Newport aforesaid; and has also executed a Letter of Attorney to the said Wm. Green, in due form, authorizing him to equip and load the said Ship, with a properly assorted Cargo for Bengal in India, where the said Ship is to proceed, under the Sole Direction of the said Wm. Green as Supercargo, and who is authorized to dispose of the said Ship *Hydra*, and her Cargo, and invest the proceeds thereof, in such Merchandize of that Country, or of China, as may best suit the American Market, to which she must Return; or for which the proceeds must ultimately be shipped.

Wherefore the said Christopher Champlin, for and in consideration, that the said William Green, his heirs and assigns, causes the said Ship *Hydra*, with her Cargo, that may be purchased at Bengal, or elswhere, be conducted to Newport aforesaid, without entering either of the harbors or Ports, of any of the American States, except in case of absolute Distress, and also paying unto the said Christopher Champlin, his heirs or assigns, two and one half per Cent, upon the full amount of the said Ships outward bound Cargo, purchased in Great Britain, or Madeira, within six Months after the said Ships arrival in America, and, also the said William Green indemnifying and exonerating the said Christopher Champlin, his heirs and assigns, from paying any Costs or Damages which may arise from the prosecution of any legal process, relative to the said Ship *Hydra* or her Cargo, during her said intended Voyage. The said Christopher Champlin therefore, in consideration of the above recited causes, for the preservation of the said Ship and Cargo, to the real and sole Owner William Green aforesaid, doth hereby promise and agree, to avow and claim the said Ship and Cargo, as his the said Christopher Champlin's property, in full right, as a freeborn Citizen of the United States of America, under every contingency that may happen, in the course of the said Voyage, as far as the Rights of a Freeborn American Subject of the United States, can Authorize, Warrant or enable him to do, in Courts, or out of Courts of law, or otherways, for effectually securing the property of the said Ship *Hydra*, and her outward, and homeward bound Cargo, for the sole use, benefit, and right of the said William Green, his heirs, Executors, Administrators or assigns, saving and excepting, the Commission of Two and one half per Cent, before stipulated; hereby the said Christopher Champlin disclaiming, as well for himself, as for his heirs Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, any right or property in the said Ship *Hydra*, her Cargoes, or the Profits which may arize from her said intended Voyage, except the Commission aforesaid. In testimony whereof, each of the Subscribing Parties have hereunto set their hands and Seals, this first

day of May, One thousand Seven hundred and Eighty four at the town of Newport in the State of Rhode Island in North America.

CHRIS CHAMPLIN [SEAL]
WILL GREEN [SEAL]

We the Subscribers do hereby
certify our being present at the
Signing and Sealing the above Agreement,
SAM'L G. FOWLER, CHRIST. FOWLER.

The said William Green farthermore agrees to exonerate, and indemnify, the said Christopher Champlin, from the payment of all Imposts, Duties, and Customs on said Ship and Cargo, Seamens Wages, and all other Expenditures that may arise on the prosecution of the said Voyage.

CHRIS CHAMPLIN [SEAL]
WILL GREEN [SEAL]

Test.
SAM'L G. FOWLER
CHRISTOPHER FOWLER

JOHN POWELL TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 3 May, 1784.

Dear Sir,

I WROTE you last summer by Mr. Welch who I was informed had married Betsey Gordon which I hope came same to your hands with other Letters from my Daughters and the family here. Long since I doubt not you have had the pleasure of seeing and knowing Mr. W. Green who went to N York in the february packet from whom you will have learnt the situation of the several families more perticularly than by any other. my Son William left me this day week for Boston, in his way to Canada. the late accounts from the *Two Brothers* from India, were agreeable. perticulars will be better conveyed to you by Jessee B Waugh I am greived to learn is and I fear in a declining way has been

expected in Town some time. By Capt. Sheffield on my coming to Town was happy to learn the continuance of health of our Good Mama and your Wife and Children. May the continuance of that and every Blessing attend you all. I rest most affectionately Dear Kit Yours,

J. P.

A. Brymer spent the winter in London, is lately gone to France the winter not agreeing with his health.

I trouble you with inclosed to forward my son as occasion may require.

Horne and Sill to Fowler and Champlin

Lisbon, 12th May, 1784.

Gentlemen,

Having loaded the *Peggy* Captain William Wigneron for Rhode Island belonging to our much esteemd friends Messrs. Geo: Gibbs and Co. of said place, we would not omitt the opportunity of making you a tender of our services in this Country. before the late events in America we had very large transactions there and we are happy the troubles that have so long existed there, are so happily terminated. a field is now open for extensive commercial engagements, and we shall think it a felicity to participate of them, assuring you no house is more capable of conducting any business committed to our management. The shipping price of Lisbon Wines is at present 70$000 per pipe a very high one indeed, but our late Vintages have been very scanty; Salt is at 1$700 rs per Moy, at St. Ubes 1$760 rs; Lemmons at 2$400 rs. per Chest, all kinds of Teas and India Goods are very cheap. If you determine to send any Ship this way we would advise you to send her direct to this port, for though the Salt at St. Ubes is much superior in Measure, yet the delays that must necessarily attend loading Vessels there, is attended with great Inconveniences and more particularly if they are to carry Wines or India Goods which must be sent round from this consequently attended with expense and delay.

Salt and India Goods are ready Money articles therefore it will be necessary you give us a Credit on London for their amount. we could allow you a Credit if necessary of Six Months for Wines.

Wheat, Indian Corn, and Staves are in general good articles for Sale, and our next harvest will be very indifferent, therefore foreign supplies will be wanted. Rice, Flour and Tobacco are prohibited.

We shall esteem the preferrence of your commands being Respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servants,

HORNE AND SILL

Ex. on London 67¼ to ½*d* per Milreis.

[Endorsed,] Per favor of Capt. Wm. Wigneron, Q. D. C.

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

. . . . . .

IF I can lay my hand upon it in time, I will send you by this Conveyance, the Copy of a pass given by Congress to their India Ships, and which may be procured without much difficulty. It will be unnecessary to insert the name of any Captain in it and I shall be glad if you will endeavor to procure it. My name as the Supercargo will be sufficient. I have no reason to complain of the Hospitality of the Boston people, unless it should injure my health. They are in general exceedingly kind and polite. I have dined but once at home since I came here. The Inman's are extremely civil. Mrs. Powell is rather unwell, but I hope will be soon up again. She has a slight fever the consequence of a fatigue in nursing her little boy who has been much indisposed.

I have only to add a hint or two at present. Pray throw your ideas on paper respecting the terms on which you will do the business in case I send the *Hydra* from India, and remain there myself, and send me the draught of a mutual Agreement on that head signed by yourself, that if I like them, I may execute it on my part. Your Son should be made acquainted with the whole of this affair in due season.

Whenever that Law passes your house of Assembly, etc. to enable your Mayor, etc. to admit Individuals to the Rights and privileges of Citizens, I do not think my admission to be impracticable altho absent. Money may effect it and you may use my Credit in any manner to secure me. I shall after I get home open a channel of Correspondence with you direct to India. . . .

Yours ever most Sincerely.

WILL GREEN

Boston, 18 May, '84.

[ENCLOSURE]

As the United States are not provided with any factories or places in the East Indies where their vessels may put in to refit or receive supplies of provisions etc. His Most Christian Majesty in order to facilitate their trade with China and other parts of the East Indias has been pleased to order that the ships or vessels of the United States of America be received and treated in the most friendly manner in the ports of the islands of Bourbon and Mauritius or the isle of France.[1]

Memo. Permission for Americans to enter French Ports at India.

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Dublin, 26 May, 1784.

Gentlemen,

MY last respects was the 23 ulto. to which refer. You have now inclosed Sales of your Flaxseed per the *Dungalviz*, Ct. Swain, Nt. Proceeds being £723.3. to your Credit without my prejudice for outstanding debts. I hope upon examining youl find them right and that you will be persuaded I consulted your Interest in the Sale to the best of my Judgment. Only three days ago did I receive your favor of the 26 December from Cork which you wrote me was sent by the *Enterprize* Capt. Sheffield. had you been so fortunate as

[1] This document is in the writing of Charles Thomson.

to have addressed that Vessels Cargo to me here, it would have turned out much better for your Interest. having yesterday rec'd a payment on Account your Flaxseed I have this day rem'd Mrs. Mary Hayley on your Account £427.13.3 St. Ex[change] 9⅛ per Ct. makes £466.13.8 at your debit, and the end of next month when the remainder of the Notes fall due I will remit the Ballance. the Exchange is most extravagantly high and such as has not been these some years past. Wheat is now 34/ a barrel of 20 Stone equal to 280 lbs. in consequence our ports are opened at the small duty of 2*d* per Barrel and will continue so untill the 10th August. White Pearl Ashes 46/ and best Pott Ashes 47/6 per Ct. Barrel Staves White Oak if good, at £6 per M. the few Capt. Swain brought were so very bad that they did not fetch near the cost. your Barrel Staves should be at least ½ an inch thick at the featheredge, 32 inches long, and as broad as possible never under 5 inches. Should you think of sending any flaxseed here the ensuing Season let me recommend to you to clean it well, and if any of your Friends want a Correspondent here I will thank you to introduce them to, Gentlemen,

Your most obed.t Serv.t
Edw.d Forbes

P. S. May 31st. Please to receive payment for the inclosed bill myself on Mr. N'l Goodin for £0: 19: 7 Irish. Ex'e 4/9 Irish per Dollar, in London they are only 4/4.

[Endorsed,] Via Philadelphia.

Philadelphia 13 Sept. 1784 Reced. under cover and forwarded by Your obedient Servants,

HAYNES AND CRAWFORD

Mark Pringle to Christopher Champlin

Baltimore, 4th June, 1784.

Dear Sir,

I had the pleasure of writing you a few lines under the 13th April in answer to yours of the 25 February. My being much from home since that period, and Mr. Hopkin's residing out of Town, prevented me from an interview with him untill a few days ago, which produced nothing more satisfactory than the inclosed letter. I really believe he is disposed to pay your Claims, but I believe also, what he says in his letter, that he cannot do it at present, and was I to give you advice, it woud be, to wait till December rather than commence a Suit, which he might protract for a much longer time. Nevertheless, if it is your desire, I shall put his note into the hands of a Lawyer. By the inclosed price current you'll perceive that N. England Rum has taken a start, but I am of opinion it will not support its present price longer than the demand of supplies for harvest continues. I should be very happy in rendering you acceptable services, whenever your views and business extend this way, for which purpose give me leave to recommend to your friendly notice, Ridley and Pringle, who will at all times shew due attention to your Interest, or to that of your friends. I cannot however recommend, or point out, any beneficial speculation to this market at present, which is already overstockd with almost every article of importation; money is scarce, and produce high, but the very favourable appearance of Crops, I hope, will have an agreeable effect.

I shall be very glad to learn from you, when you have leisure, how Mrs. Bell and her family are, what events have taken place since their removal to England, and the death of my Uncle. Be so good, Sir, as to present my best respects to Mrs. Champlin and your family, and believe that I am, with very great regard, Dear Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

Mark Pringle

Robert Champlin to George Gibbs and Co.

Wilmountown June the 6th 1784.

Dear Sirs, I am sorry to in form you that I never saw so much olteration in so little tim as there is at this. when I left this thare was only 5 Sail of Vessels and the Shores lind with Lombor and know thare is 64 larg Sail mos of them English. at this tim thare is not 3 Hoghh. of Tobaco nor Rice in this Country and not one Foote of Lombor can be bough for those forren Ships has swept everthing and ar not ½ loaded. I cannot sell the Brig. Rum I cannot sell at more than 2/6 this mony. the River is so lo that the Lombor cannot come down for thare has ben no rains here this long time. I dont think that I can get a Load of Lombor till August. my Rum will not half load me Boards is at £6.10 hard mony so what to do God noes. The Jenteele men that I expect to sell the Brig to say now thay have no yous for a Vessell for they have nothing to put in them. to brake my orders I darnt due and to stay here till August and then only get a ½ Load of Lomber must sink everything for Mr. Walker will not pay any Lomber becaus he can sell that for hard mony. I no not what to due. I woush I could have a Line from you. I am Your damd onluckkey Sarvant.

I rot you by the way of Boston.

Robt. Champlin

I have ben here ever sence the 1 day of June only had one offer of the Brig £500 and that to be payd in tobacco in October the man is good and my be depended upon but I think the price too small.

To Mesures George Gybbs and Comp. Marchants in Rhode Island.

William Green to Christopher Champlin

Dear Sir,

As Thursday next is now determined to be the day of the *Active's* sailing, I embrace the present opportunity by Mr. Brattle, to bid you and your good family a temporary adieu; and to wish you all imaginable happiness and success. If the expectations you entertained of the time of your Members return from Congress are just, you must ere now have learnt from him the means by which a pass for the *Hydra* is to be obtain'd, from that body, and I trust have put the affair in a proper train to obtain it without any loss of time; this pass is so indispensable an Instrument to cover the real nature of the Voyage, that I cannot proceed without it. I do not apprehend that any letter from you on this subject is likely to reach me here, therefore if you write by the June and July Packets, addressing me as usual in Harpur Street, or under the cover of Mr. Wilkinson, I shall have hopes of receiving your letters in good time, and without the uncertainty of private Conveyance; I do not at this moment see, why the Pass itself may not be sent by the July packet, and a Duplicate or attested Copy should follow by the next conveyance, which will obviate the Inconveniences that may arise from the accidental miscarriage of the first. If a Duplicate cannot be easily had, a Copy will do if publickly attested by any State Officer. You must be sensible that this form is of so much importance, that nothing can be done without it, and I shall be put to terrible Inconveniences if after having fitted and loaded my Ships I do not get it. It will half ruin me, and totally destroy the whole plan of my Voyage. Give a moment's scope to reflection and you will see as I do the necessity of a prompt and decisive exertion. The June Mail will be dispatcht the first Wednesday in July from New York, and the succeeding Mail the same day in August. I rely entirely on the pleasure of hearing from you by every opportunity. There are two Vessels will sail from this port for London early in July from the 1st to the 10th. I saw our friend Kit yesterday he is well.

Repeat my assurances of regard to my good Grandmama, Mrs. C. and your dear Girls and believe me, with sincere Esteem, Your Obliged and Most Humble Servant,

WILL GREEN

Boston, 14 June, '84.

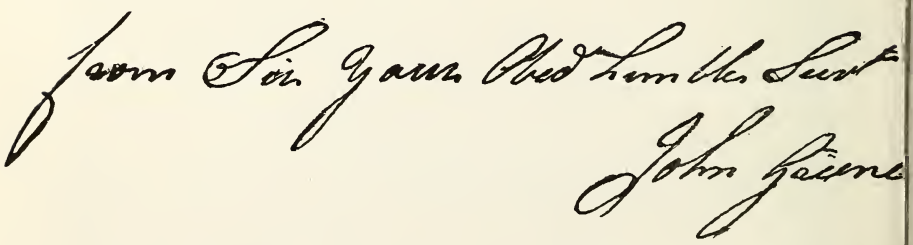
JOHN GREENE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Gothenburg, June 16th, 1784.

Sir,

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you of the arrival of your Brig *Richmond* at Marstrand after a passage of thirty four days, ware I lay one day and then proceeded to Gothenburg. at my arrival I found by strick inquiry that Mr. Söderström was adoing business and in good Creadit. he gives me incouragement of the sales of Tobacco, as he has lately sold a cargo of Capt. Heagersons at about $5\frac{1}{2}d$ Stg. and does not in the least doubt but ours will fetch as much. the Candles he is in hopes to sell as before, and promises me with great Despash we shall begin to discharge to morrow.

Mr. Söderström has not received the Ballance of Mr. Black for Mr. Gibbs as yet. I shall write more perticulars by Capt. Skinner who sails for New York in about a fortnight.



P. S. The Captains Lane and Heagerson are arrived hear and there cargoes sold as above. We are all well on board.

Tea ¼ per li.

Carl Söderström to Christopher Champlin

Gothenburg, 16th June, 1784.

Sir,

Referring you to my last Respects the 14th Aprill the present serves to congratulate you on the safe arrival of your Brig *Richmond*, Captain John Green who delivered me the 14th Instant your esteemed Favours of the 10th and 7th ulto. the former accompanying Account Sales of my Hemp and Junk the Neat Proceeds whereof £247.5 Lawful Money or £185.8.9 Sterling I have placed to the debit of Richard Söderström[1] as you have ordered him to value on you for the same. This adventure turns out but a losing one to me, though I suppose you have done the best you could. Respecting the Sales of your 106 Hogsheads Tobacco and 50 Boxes of Spermacetti Candles I can only say that no assiduity shall be wanting on my part to render them as profitable as possible, much will depend on the quality of the Tobacco, but the demand is greatly slakened owing to a supply of upwards of 400 Hhds which were sold by Auction last Week and averaged a price of about 4/6: the Quality was as good as what came by your Brig last Year.

I have noted the returns you wish to be made for the Neat Proceeds of this Cargo which as closely as possible shall be attended to. The Iron shall be ship'd agreeable to Assortment, but of Pettersburg Hemp and Russia Duck there is none at present in Town. an supply however may arrive in time but the price of the latter will certainly go higher than 8½ R£ per piece, and as War was as much at end last Year as this there is no ground to suppose that the price of either article will be lower. Tea is also got a little up, and no great deal on hand. I shall however be able to supply you with the requisite quantity and at the lowest price, though if not to be got at the price you limit the alternative

[1] Richard Söderström was, in 1785, recognized by the governor of Massachusetts as Swedish consul at Boston, thus raising a question whether such recognition pertained to a State or to the Continent. See *Life and Correspondence of Rufus King*, I. 75.

you propose is impracticable. If I detain your Brig 'till the India Ships arrive I must also keep her 'till the Sales commence, if she is to be loaded with part of their Cargoes as it is impossible to get a single Chest from the Company before hand. I shall therefore make the dispatch of the Vessel the principal object of my attention, filling her up with Bohea if there is a difficiency in any other articles. I shall assist Captain Green in the purchase of a Trunk of Copenhagen Callicoes as well as [in ev]ery other case wherein my help may be necessary. With much Respect I remain, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

CARL SÖDERSTRÖM

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

June 19th, 1784, Saturday 4 oclock.

My dear Sir,

I HAVE this moment had the pleasure of receiving yours of the 17th and Mrs. Champlin's of the 10th Inst. The form of the pass I request is general, and I apprehend may be granted by the Comittee. It would be sufficient if agreeably to their form, tho only signed by a Member of the Comittee. My project must in a great degree be abortive of profit unless I am enabled to sail before the Middle of October, and I cannot pretend to load her, unless I have your assurance that the pass may be procured from the Comittee of Congress (who during the Vacation possess all their powers) and forwarded to me so as to arrive by the 1st of that Month in England. If the Comittee decline to give it, which I do not apprehend is likely, a similar Instrument, under the Signature and Seal of his Excellency my Namesake,[1] will answer my purpose, so as to enable me to proceed on my Voyage. I authorize you to assure His Excellency that I am half an American, but such Instrument must be countersigned by the State Secretary. The pass from Congress may then follow me to India. I think you should give me Introductions to Messrs. Franklin, Adams, and Jefferson

[1] William Greene, governor of Rhode Island.

who are your Ministers in Europe, and these may be accompanied by letters from your Delegates in Congress. Perhaps, your Assembly may be now sitting, and your powers as a Corporate body ascertained. Do not fail, I pray you, so soon as you can, to send me a Certificate, that I am a Member of the American Union.[1] I continue to think the object worth the expense of sending your Delegates Son to Annapolis, and whatever may be the charge pray let me know as soon as it is determined, and I will pay to your Correspondent in London. Let him not lose a Moment for they are precious at present.

You see my dear friend that I have thrown together a few hints to exercise both your Imagination and Judgment, I have not power to expatiate. With respect to a pass from the Governor of Rhode Island, I am entirely serious, it may answer all the effects of the other from the Congress or its Comittee. And if we succeed in obtaining both they may be of collateral service. The Brig *Hope* and the *Ceres* will sail from here in about 8 days. Let me have your opinions by them and by every opportunity. We shall certainly sail tomorrow or Monday.

Mr. Powell talks of setting off tomorrow to see you. Kit is well. I spent part of Thursday with him. I beg my respects to your good family and that you will believe me ever Yours

WILL GREEN

Pray present my respects to Sir Peyton Skipwith.[2]

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[1] Not until May, 1786, did the Rhode Island General Assembly pass an act for naturalizing William Greene, "a native of Great Britain, and a subject of His Britannic Majesty." *Rhode Island Col. Rec.*, x. 197.

[2] He is mentioned in Hayden, *Virginia Genealogies*, 217. He lived at Prestwould, Mecklenburg Co., Va., and was descended from Sir Gray Skipwith, who emigrated to *Virginia*, from Prestwould, Leicesterhire, during the Protectorate. He married sisters Anne and Jane Miller, daughters of Hugh and Jane (Bolling) Miller. A daughter, Lillia Skipwith, was the second wife of St. George Tucker. *William and Mary Quarterly*, XXIII. 281.

John Greene to Christopher Champlin

Gothenburg, June 25th, 1784.

Sir,

I wrote you of my Arrival by way of London wherein I informd you of my arriving at Marstrand on the 14th Inst. after a passage of thirty four days and the day following arriv'd at Gothenburg, were I found the Captains Lane and Heggerson from Virginia (the two Vessels I informd you of). I made strick inquiry in regard to Mr. Söderström and found he was doing business, and had Capt. Heggersons Cargo which he sold before I arrived. Mr. Grieg had the other which was allso sold at about 5*d* Stg. our Tobacco turns out very good and is to be sold the 6th of July. Mr. Söderström informs me he has a cargo ready to put on board which I shall begin to take in the first of next month. as we are now at the key to clean the Cash I expect to exchange Dollar for Dollar which is the most I can get for them and shall lay them out to the best advantage, in Bohea tea which is about 15*d* penc Stg. li. Mr. Söderström has wrote to Copenhagen in regard to Mr. Gibbs callocoes but has not an answer yet.

the India Ships arived on the 17th Inst. there sails begins the 6th of September. I hope to be at home by the latter end of August, but shall inform you by Capt. Heggerson who only waits for hemp and duck which is expected every moment. from Sir Your humble Servant

John Greene

[Endorsed,] Per Capt. Lane of Boston.

Memorial to the Continental Congress[1]

To etc.

The Memorial of Christopher Champlin of Newport in the State of Rhode Island Merchant, Most Humbly Sheweth,

That your Memorialist having obtained from the Honorable Committee of Congress in the Month of July last

[1] [Endorsed] "Sketch of a Memorial." The final form follows.

Letters of Navigation from this Ship the *Hydra* then fitting in the River Thames, whereof his Nephew Wm. Green was Supercargo, and John Clark Master, and intended for Bengal and China has since under its encouragement and authority compleated her equipment and loading to a large amount with the various articles of American and European produce, and that she sailed from Great Britain for India in the Month of January last.

That the object of this undertaking is to endeavor to open an advantageous Trade between the United States and the different Parts of India, as well as of China That the Captain John Clark having been taken ill just before her sailing Mr. Wm. Green the Supercargo was obliged on the part of your Memorialist to put in Mr. John Haggey, to command her in his stead.

Your Memorialist therefore prays most humbly that the Honorable Congress will be pleased to furnish him with Letters of Navigation similar to those granted to the Ship *Empress of China*, and that he may be enabled by the first opportunity to expedite it after her to India. And your Memorialist as in Duty bound etc.

Copy of the Sea Letters.

Most serene, serene, most puissant puissant high illustrious noble honorable, venerable, wise and prudent Emperors Kings Republics, Princes, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Lords, Burgo Masters Counsellors, as also Judges Officers Justiciaries and Regents of all the good cities and places, whether ecclesiastical or secular who shall see these presents or hear them read,

We the United States of America in a Committee of the States assembled make known that John Clark Captain of the Ship called the *Hydra* and William Green Supercargo on board her, are Citizens of the United States of America and that the ship which the said John Clark commands, belongs to Citizens of the said United States and as we wish to see the said John Clark and Wm. Green prosper in all their lawful affairs our prayer is to all the before-

mentioned and to each of them separately when the said John Clark and Wm. Green shall arrive with their Vessel and Cargo that they may please to receive them with goodness and treat them in a becoming manner, permitting them upon the usual tolls and expences, in passing and repassing to pass navigate and frequent their Seas, to the end to transact their business where and in what manner they shall judge proper, whereof we shall be willingly indebted.

In testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of the United States of America to be hereunto affixt Witness the Honorable Samuel Hardy Chairman this 8th day of July in the Year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty four and of our Sovereignty and Independance the ninth.

Seal of the States

(Signed) S. HARDY

Countersigned
CHAS. THOMSON Secretary.

MEMORIAL TO THE CONGRESS

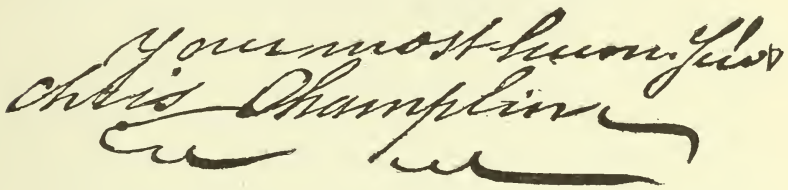
[July, 1784.]

To the Honorable the Committee of the States appointed to sit in the recess of Congress.

The Memorial of Christopher Champlin of Newport in the State of Rhode-Island etc. Merchant. Humbly sheweth, That he is at present the sole owner, and John Clark at present master of the Ship called *Hydra*, and that she is of the burthen of about three hundred tons, as appears by an authenticated copy of the Register of said ship which accompanies this Memorial:

That William Green is Super-cargo of said Ship; that she is navigated with about twenty five men, and is bound to the Kingdom of Bengal in India, and from thence to the Port of Canton in China; That as your Memorialist wishes to obtain every possible security for the said Ship during her voyage, he earnestly requests your honorable body to grant to the said supercargo, William Green, Sea letters of the same form, or a form similar to those granted by Congress

the last January for the Ship *United States* belonging to Philip Moore.[1] When your Memorialist considers the disposition which the Great Council of the United States hath manifested to encourage, extend, and protect the commerce of the United States, he confidently expects that your honorable body will readily grant this request, a compliance with which will induce him, if possible, more ardently to pray for the prosperity of the United States.



If this memorial should suit him Mr. Champlin will transcribe it fairly, and inclose it with the copy of the register in a wrapper, directed in the following manner The Honorable The Chairman of the Committee of the States appointed to sit in the recess of Congress.

[Memo.] Copy of Memorial presented Committee of Congress, July, 1784.[2]

Carl Söderström to Christopher Champlin

Gothenburg, 29th July, 1784.

Sir,

Deprived of your esteemed Favours since my last of 22nd Ulto. the present serves solely to hand you Account Sales of 96 Hhds and a parcel of loose Tobacco received per the Brig *Richmond* Capt. John Greene producing Specie Rp 8447.26.5 at your Credit. This though not so much as the last I hope will not be dissatisfactory for I have been obliged to lay up two Cargoes of my own which arrived since Captain Greene as were they to be sold they would not sell nearly so high. Inclosed are Bill of Lading for and Invoice of sundry Goods ship'd you by the above Vessel amounting to Rp 9997.43.5 at your debit, all which are as conformable to your Orders

[1] *Journals of the Continental Congress*, January 2, 1784.

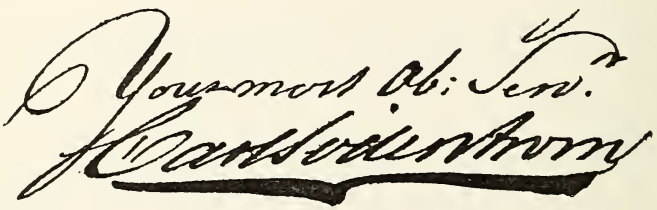
[2] This memorial is in the writing of William Ellery.

as possible and the lowest price charged for each Article, therefore I hope the same will give as great satisfaction as my exertions have been to render it for I have spared no pains to procure the Goods ordered as soon as they could be got and to give the Vessel all possible dispatch. I shall therefore be glad to hear of their safe and quick arrival and of their meeting your approbation.

The Spoermacœti Candles could not be sold at any reasonable price. I have therefore sent them to Amsterdam from whence when I get Account Sales I shall transmit you the same.

Inclosed is an Account of the disbursements for the Ship being Rp 188.20.10 placed to your debit in Account Current enclosed balancing in my favour with Rp 1890.27.9 which if right please to note in conformity.

I have ship'd 4 Chests Bohea Tea No. 73 to 76 on my own Account which please to land and hold at the disposal of the Bill of Lading. Wishing for a continuance of your Commands I remain with thanks for those I have received most respectfully, Sir,



P. S. I was obliged to allow 6 Months Credit on the Tobacco or I should not have been able to have sold any at all.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 31st July, 1784.

Gentlemen,

I WROTE you the 30th ulto. adviseing of my having remitted the Ballance of the Produce of your F:seed being

£236.2.1 Sterling to Mrs. Mary Hayley of London, and hearing this Lady is now in your Country, I beg leave to trouble you with the inclosed letter for her which please deliver or forward where ever she may be. There is a prospect of a very fine Harvest all through the Kingdom. The Bearer of this the *Lord Charlemount* for New York and two other Vessels who sails in co: for Philadelphia are loaden intirely with the Manufactures of this Country, which is improving suprizeingly. Our Linens, all sorts; Stuffs Flannells, Serges, Morains, Campblets and Durants and Silk Handkerchieffs excell any Country in Europe. We are also greatly improved in Checks, all kinds of Cotton Goods, Coarse Woolens, say Coatings, Blankets, and 6/4 wide coarse Cloths at 5/ to 6/ per yard, and we have the annex'd bounties on the Export of Linnens etc. which I mention for your Government, should you want any. but our Manufacturers are too poor to give longer Credits then 2 Months on Coarse Linens and 4 Months on fine Ditto and 4 and 6 Months on most other Goods, but many will not give any Credits but take off a discount of 2½ to 3 per Ct.

Our Glass Manufacture is cheaper then in England I think, particularly Window-Glass, 7 by 9 is only 3½*d* per foot, 6 by 8, 3*d*, and 10 by 8, 4*d* per foot, being what offers. I remain Gent., Your most humble Servant

EDWARD FORBES

1/2 per yd. Bounty on Buckram and all Linens 25 Inches broad under 5*d* per yd.
1*d* per yd. on all do. under 6 1/2 per yd.
1 1/2 on all do. above 6 1/2 and under 1/7 1/2 per yd.
1/2 on Checks, Huccabacks and Sheetings 25 Inches broad not under 7*d* per yd. nor exceeding 1/7 1/2 per yd.
1 1/2 do. on do. on every square yard do. upwards of a yard in breadth.
Same on Linens and Cottons.
6 1/2 for every 3 ells of sail Canvas.

INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions for my Nephew Mr. William Green for his Conduct as Supercargo of my Ship the *Hydra*, during her present intended Voyage.

Having loaded and equipped my Ship the *Hydra*, agreeably

to the Invoices with which I have furnished you; and manned her with as many able bodied Seamen, as you may deem sufficient for her navigation from Great Britain to the Indian Seas; you are to clear her out, or cause her to be cleared out, at the Custom House of the Port of London, for the Island of Madeira, in the Atlantic Ocean; and for this Port; and upon your arrival at the former, you are to receive on board of her, on my Account, as many pipes of the Wine of the Island, as you may be able to stow, in addition to the Cargo you will then have; and you are not to lose a moment, after your outfit shall have been compleated in the River Thames, in proceeding to that Island, making the best of the winds and weather, and availing yourself of every circumstance that may tend to accelerate your passage thither.

You are to compose your Crew of as many Seamen as you can procure, of the subjects of the United States; or of the Nations, or States, with whome the United States have concluded and agreed Treaties of Amity and Commerce.

You are to cause your Insurance to be done in the first instance, agreeably to the terms of your Clearance, from Madeira and Rhode Island; but you are to give instructions to the Insurance broker you may employ, to continue it upon the same Policies (if possible) as soon as he judges the *Hydra* to have reached the Limits of the Channel of England; for the Port of Chinsurah, in the Kingdom of Bengal, in India, for which Port you are to make the best of your way, after you quit the Island of Madeira, touching only, for as short a time as possible, for the necessary purpose of refreshment at the Cape of Good Hope.

Upon your arrival in Bengal, you are to conduct yourself in such manner, as may best avoid giving embrage to any European power, who may have settlements there; and you are to exercise the same precautions, with respect to the Officers and Seamen under your direction, that they comport themselves peaceably and humanely to all such persons, or people, whether Indians, or others, with whom you or they may have occasion to deal.

You are on your arrival at Chinsurah, to expose your papers; if required, to the Chief of the Dutch Factory: and endeavor to obtain his permission to sell your Cargo, or at least such part thereof, as is best suited to that Market, or for the Coin of the Country, or by way of barter, for the Manufactures of Bengal; in doing which you are to exercise, and exert, all the Judgment and Discretion you are possessed of, to promote the advantage of the Concern: and you are to avail yourself, in the prosecution thereof, of all, or any of the stipulations contained in the Treaty of Commerce concluded between these United States and their High Mightinesses.

Having disposed of the Cargo you are intrusted with, to the best advantage, and loaded the *Hydra*, with such returns as you are able or permitted to purchase, and which are the best calculated for consumption, and of course for sale, in the American Market, and at the lowest prices, you are to make the best of every circumstance of wind and weather that will accelerate your speedy return therewith, to this Port, touching however, at such friendly ports on your homeward bound Passage, either in Asia, in Africa, or America, as you may think necessary to refresh your crew at, for the sake of preserving their Healths; or to which stress of weather, or any unforeseen accident, or event, may oblige you to have recourse.

But, in case you meet with any obstructions to your Trading at Chinsurah, in the manner I have directed in the foregoing, you are then to proceed with her to the Factory of His Most Christian Majesty at Chandernagore, in the neighborhood thereof, and availing yourself of the Treaties of Alliance and of Commerce subsisting between America and France, you are there to endeavor by every fair and legal means, to carry the several purposes herein before directed into full and compleat effect.

However at this distance of time it may be impossible to guard by instruction, against all the events, that may happen in the course of your Voyage; as many changes may take place in the Commercial and Political World, before the

final accomplishment thereof. therefore in any dilemma, you are to consult your own Judgment and act for the best; availing yourself of all the several powers vested in you, by my Power of Attorney, bearing date in this City, the Twenty ninth day of April last, and registered in the book of Land Evidence in this State (No 2) since the Evacuation of the British Forces, Pages the 142 and 143.

If a continuity of difficulties should prevent your trading in either of the Factories above mentioned; you are to avail yourself of any other Ports, that may be opened to you; whether Indian, or European, in the Bay of Bengal, or Coast of Coromandel; preferring however, in all cases the two I have already named.

His Most Christian Majesty, in the benevolence of his Royal Heart, having opened the Ports of the Isles of Bourbon and Mauritius, to all the ships and vessels belonging to the United States, which may be engaged in the purposes of trade and commerce, in the Indian Seas; you are made acquainted therewith, that in case of Necessity, you may make your rendezvous there.

The affairs with which I intrust you, being happily accomplished at the Ports of Chinsurah, or Chandernagore; or at any other Ports in the Bay of Bengal, and Coast of Coromandel, and such of your homeward bound cargo, as is to consist of the Manufactures of that Country, laid in, you are to proceed with all the dispatch consistent with your safety to the River, and Port of Canton in China; where you are to dispose of that part of your remaining Cargo, as may be laid in, or best calculated for the Chinese Market; if at the expiration of your time, upon the first part of your Voyage, any should remain undisposed of in your hands, and you should deem such a farther continuance of the Voyage likely to turn out to advantage, so as upon the whole, taking into careful estimate the profit and loss thereupon, a considerable ballance is likely to accrue in my favor, and there, that is at Canton, to sell and bargain for the same, in the most beneficial manner for my Interests; and compleat your investment for your return, in the coarsest kinds of Bohea Teas,

Nankins, and such other of their coarser Stuffs for Cloathing, as may best answer our market. You are, however, at all times, to consider the continuation of your Voyage to China, as collateral only to that to Bengal; under the above circumstances; and at the regular accomplishment thereof, you are to follow the Instructions contained in page the third, and fourth, in the event of your voyage to Bengal; and in the same manner from China; not to lose any time in returning to this City and Port.

But whereas, I think it fitting that, in case your arrangements for the outward bound Cargo, in respect of Bargain, Sale, and Payment, should not be accomplished so soon, or in so short a space of time, as you might otherways have reason to expect, and the Expences of the Ship in the mean time must necessarily be very considerable; you be, and you are therefore authorized to let her upon freight, provided you can do so upon terms sufficiently advantageous, and also, in case that she is not to carry Merchandize, nor to be employed in any European or American Seas, nor the period. for which she is to be hired, to exceed Twelve Calendar Months, from the date of her Sailing upon such Voyage from the place of your Settlement, or Residence, until the day of her return to the same Port. And you are previous to her departure, to have her Hull, Masts etc. including all her Equipage, appraised, estimated, and valued, by proper and capable persons, so that in case of loss, or damage, the necessary Compensation may be therefore made, on the part of the Freighters, and upon her return, and discharge from such adventure; you are to expedite your affairs as much as possible, to the end, that no delay may be had in your final return to Rhode Island.

In your correspondence with me, which you are to keep up by every oppertunity, you are to be extreemly particular in describing the reception you meet with, from the several powers, whether native or foreign, in India, that I may regularly lay the same before the Honorable Congress of the united states, that they may be made acquainted with the respect paid to their pass, and to the American Flag.

You are to take particular care, that all the subordinate officers of the *Hydra* as well as the Captain, be punctually obedient to all the orders and directions you may give them, as far as may be agreeable to the Laws and customs which regulate trade and trading vessels, and you are in all your expences of stores, and other articles; as well as of provisions, to be particularly frugal so that every thing be managed in the best order, and with the greatest possible Acconomy. and if all, or any of them, fail in either of these respects, you are hereby particularly authorized and required to hire and appoint others in their place, discharging the faulty and incorrigible without delay.

In testimony of my desire and intentions in all the several particulars herein before stated I have hereinto set my hand and seal, this fifteenth day of August anno domini one Thousand seven Hundred and Eighty four at the City of Newport in the state of Rhode Island and Providence plantation in North America.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

[Memo.] Copy of Instructions given William Green Esquire, August 1784.

MARY HAYLEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 26th August, 1784.

Sir,

HEREWITH you have Copies of my last since which I have receivd your esteemd favour of 11th July which came to hand the 14th Inst. too late to counter order your India Goods, however the greatest part you will have seen were omitted.

I can give you no hope of the duty on Oil imported from America being taken off, but on the contrary the Legislature of this Country seem determined to continue it, for the express purpose of encouraging the Fishery from Great Britain in preference to that of America, which is now become an Independent State. the same principle of encouraging and strengthening our own Navy also operates in preventing your Ships visiting our West India Islands.

I would therefore recommend you avoiding any speculation in Oil, with the hope of its being imported here free of Duty. Our Friend Mr. Rotch can explain this Business to you as I have frequently wrote him my sentiments upon it.

Inclosed I now hand you Invoice and Bill of Loading of the remainder of the Goods you ordered shipd on board the *Hope*, Capt. Whipple for Rhode Island, amounting with £315 Insurance thereon to £306.17.1 which sum is passd to your Debit, and I hope they will arrive in season and to your approbation. I am with respect, Sir, Your most humble Servant Per procuration from Mary Hayley,

ALEX. CHAMPION, JUN.

CHRISTOPHER GRANT CHAMPLIN[1] TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Cambridge, Septemb. 6th, 1784.

Dear Sir,

AFTER being detained two days at Providence and having an agreeable Journey to Boston, I arrived at Cambridge the Saturday after the Vacation was up. I have been in College about a week.[2] the room which I have got is in the Southwest corner of Hollis College, the prospect is good and the Chamber handsome with the addi[tion] we have made to it of papering and painting, and you cannot imagine how much preferable my Situation in College is, to what it was when out not only with regard to many little Inconveniences, but likewise with respect to my Studies, as I can now study, with much more ease and Satisfaction than before. As to the diet at Commons, though it is not quite so good as I cou'd wish, yet there is always plenty, and — the goodness of my Appetite amply compensates for it's deficiency in Quality.

Mrs. Wendell set out for Barnstable last week upon a

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

[2] He was of the class of 1786. Born at Newport, April 12, 1768, he was a Senator from Rhode Island, 1810–16, and died March 28, 1840. He fought a duel with James Asheton Bayard.

Visit to her Daughter. as she left her house entirely vacant, except an old negro Woman to take care of it, and desired me to let my bed and bedstead remain there until it was convenient to remove them to Boston or elsewhere, or, if I chose, to let them remain there all the time I was at College, but at the same time refused taking any pay for the room which they wou'd take up, I thought it best to let them stay there, only for the pres[en]t until I cou'd get somebody in Cambridge to keep them [for] me at some small consideration, a Quarter, or Year, or else send them to Mrs. Leverett, who will keep them as long as I please.

I shoud have wrote you before had I not been so entirely engrossed with removing and geting my room in order, that I have scarce had a Moment to myself. we have just began our course of Mathematical Lectures and as this branch includes arithmetic I mean to pay particular attention to it, and consequently find my time pretty well employ'd with this and reading the Books which I take out of the Library, together with the other common exercises which we are obliged to perform, therefore cannot always devote such a share of my time to you as my inclination prompts me to, and your paternal kindness demands from your affectionate and dutiful Son,

C. C.

Mark Pringle to Christopher Champlin

Baltimore, the 7th September, 1784.

Dear Sir,

I have your esteem'd favour of the 24th June, and, I hope, in return for your indulgence, Mr. Hopkins will observe punctuality in the discharge of his obligation. I shall take care to remind him, and to receive Interest etc.

The late Accounts of the decline of Tobacco in England, and Holland, and the favourable appearance of abundant Crops, have had some effect on the price here, and I am persuaded, in the course of two months it will be considerably lower. The Crop of Wheat has also been very plenty and it is expected the price will be about 6/ to 6/6 per bushell.

CHRISTOPHER GRANT CHAMPLIN

[*after St. Memin*]

With respect to West India Goods etc. please to refer to the inclosed price current. I am sorry the one promised in my last was omitted. Fall Goods, from England, sell at 100 to 110 per Ct. advance. I am very sincerely, Dear Sir,

Your most Ob. Servt.

Mark Pringle

Benjamin Peirce to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler

St. Lucia, October 2d, 1784.

Gentlemen,

I WROTE the 28th September (via Martinica) of my arrival at Barbados after a passage of 42 days of bad weather, but could not get admitted with the Ship without delivering my Cargo to every Merchant in that Island, for if I sold to one the others wou'd inform against the Vessel. after laying off and on part of two days I bore away for this place which I prefer'd to Martinica on account of the sizures that were made in that place eight days before I arrived here, the difference of the port charges and the goodness of the Harbour. I have sold the lumber (Boards) for Sixteen Dollars per M, the Shingles for twenty five livres per M. The Staves are on hand yet. Expect to sail from this in six days for Turks Island as there is no Salt at Bonaire. will give every dispatch in my power. as I wrote fully the 28th September 'tis needless now to enter into particulars again. I am, Gentlemen, your Obedient Servant,

BENJ. PEIRCE

Price Current

Boards 133 livres per M.
Shingles pine 20 to 24 Livres per M.
Staves
Horses 8 to 15 Johannes
Flour 56 Livres per bbl.
Rice 80 Livres per Ct.
Sugar 33 to 40 Livres per Ct.
Cotton 190 livres per Ct.
Coffee 20 Sols per li.
Melasses 20 Sols per Gal.

Please to communicate this to Messrs. Champlin and Fowler with all possible Dispatch.

B. Peirce

William Green to Christopher Champlin

6 October, 1784.

My dear Sir,

I had the pleasure of receiving your favor of the 22d of July and its duplicate on the 11th ultimo, but the pass from Congress for the *Hydra* did not reach my hand until the 29th, owing I presume to the packet having been detained a more than ordinary time at New York.

From that moment however I have set seriously to work and I have strong hopes of getting away by the beginning of December. previous to her sailing I shall forward to you Copies of the Invoices Accounts, Policy of Insurance, and of all and several such other papers as may be deemed necessary for your guidance in case of Accident.

The importance of the trust I repose in you, I know you are well aware of, as all my property now is under your Name. you may therefore openly avow your having fitted and loaded a Ship for India, but keep her destination in other respects a Secret, because it yet depends on circumstances, whether the Voyage will be extended to China, or whether I shall return to Newport directly from Bengal, but of this I will take care to apprize you in due time.

I have determined to abridge the amount of my outward Investment which now will not exceed the amount of £20.000.

It is in vain that I have endeavored to prevail on Mrs. G. to remain behind me, she is determined to visit India and has proposed to take Jenny Bell with her, but the thing is not yet resolved upon. Mrs. Waugh has also thoughts of going with her husband to her brothers but that also depends on circumstances, and requires a little more time for deliberation before he throws himself out of the Army.

My remembrance of Betsey will be signified by the piano

forte, which is now making for her, and which with the Music that accompanies it, she will have the kindness to accept for my sake. If I have time I mean to write Peggy, in particular to request she will have the goodness to accept as a mark of my respect and esteem a gold Watch, Chain and trinkets, which I have ordered to be made for her. Many very pretty things might be said upon this occasion by a Man of Words, but I will only recommend to them briefly, but most affectionately, to diligent employment of their time and a constant attention to the advantages of Harmony in Life and Conversation. I cannot tell by what Ship I shall send them, but it will be by the way of Boston and to the care of Mr. David Sears.

I have not yet determined upon a Captain. a Captain Clark is fitting her but does not go out in her.

You are not to imagine that I forget Kit — he has a very high rank in my esteem. I mean if I can lay my hand upon them, to send him a compact edition of the best latin authors but they are difficult to get and require time. I have written to Glasgow for them.

I shall take care to comply with your desire by paying Mr. Champion Mrs. Hayleys Attorney the Sum you mention to have disbursed for me.

Robert Grant has been all the summer in Scotland and is not yet returned. I shall be mindful of your commission.

With pleasure I often call to mind your hospitality and kindness to me whilst at Newport, the attention and kindness of your good Lady I shall always remember with respect, as well as the warm regard of our venerable Grandmother. Tempe joins me in every wish for both your happiness and in our best regards to the Young Gentleman at College and the Young Ladies her Cousins.

I am ever with great regard and true Esteem Your faithful friend and servant

WILL GREEN

P. S. Our little one is well and grows quite a Beauty.

Alexander Keith to Christopher Champlin

Nantes, 15th October, 1784.

Sir,

Now that peace is restored to the Continents of Europe and America on a permanent footing and that trade begins to recover from the many misfortunes that were the consequence of the war and still more of the peace, in quality of an old established Merchant in this flourishing City and well acquainted with every one of the branches of its trade, I take the liberty to make you a tender of my best services here, assuring you that by my intimate Connections with most of the principal manufactures in France, and my experience in the disposal of every article of the produce of your Continent, I have it in my power to serve you on the most advantageous footing in every respect. This you will acquire ample and sufficient proofs of when you may be pleased to make a trial, and I think prudent Merchants may venture now to do something with a fair prospect of success, as the frenzy of many adventurers immediately after the peace pouring immense quantities of goods into your ports not at all adapted to their wants or consumpt[ion] seems to their cost, pretty well subsided. For my part, I continually stood aloof till now that I look upon trade as pretty well purged and as I confine myself entirely to the commission branch and have made it an invariable rule to ship no goods for any quarter unless with Funds in hands either in Consignments, good bills or a confirmed credit on one of the principal cities in Europe. I have it by that means in my power to serve my friends on the very lowest terms and infinitely better than your Countrymen have been since the commencement of their connections with France. The considerable concern I hold in one of the principal Callico and Chintz Manufactures of this City enables me to serve you with that essential article for your market in a manner respecting patterns, taste, stuff and price much superior to most others, being

intimately acquainted with what is suitable for your Consumpt[ion].

The moment I receive value either in goods, bills, freights, vessels ordered for sale etc. I a[m re]ady to return the full amount in such goods as may be ordered and with the utmost Dispatch.

The present low prices of french manufactures in general especially the remarkable low rates of brandies and wines occasioned by a very plentiful vintage, still more so of all sorts of teas and other East-India goods will I hope engage you to do something this way and favour me with your orders which I repeat to you will be executed to your utmost satisfaction and in such a manner as to insure me their Continuance. meanwhile, in expectation thereof, I enclosed hand you the price current of our principal Exports and Imports from your quarters and remain in all your commands, Sir, Your most obedient Servant

ALEX. KEITH

HENRY GREIG TO HUNTER, GIBBS AND CHAMPLIN

Gottenburg, the 23d [?] October, 1784.

Sirs,

BEING without any of your esteemed favours I embrace this opportunity of transmitting you a price current of our Imports and Exports at this market for your and friends information, prices that will be found upon the whole more encouraging than any in Europe. in case you should incline to speculate the ensuing Winter or Spring, and if you are pleased to favour me with your Commands I make no doubt of rendering you so favourable an account of them as to merit a continuance of your favours. A Cargo of the best St. James or York River Tobacco, joined with 40: 50,000 li. good middling Domingo or Martinico Coffee small green bean about as much rice, with 10: 20,000 li. of purple and common Copper Carolina Indigo will next Spring, or indeed in general, find a very good Market with us, and what is singularly encouraging, our charges on every commodity

are remarkably low, being only 4: 5 per Cent Commission included. I am in all your Commands, Sirs, Your most obedient Servant,

HENRY GREIG

JOSIAH WATSON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Alexandria, 31st Nov., 1784.

Sir,

I WROTE you the 10th and 17th instant to which please refer. Your favour of the 9th instant I am to acknowledge the receipt of and note the contents. Tobacco has not sold under 28/ with us and little has yet been purchased at that price, nor is there the quantity offered I had reason to expect. indeed as high as 30/ has been given within these 8 days past. however money is scarce and I flatter myself the current cash price will not exceed 28/. during the winter I am of opinion it will be under that price. As I before observed doubt not but the business of your Brig will be transacted by me in such a manner as to meet your approbation. In reply to what you mention respecting the purchase of 100 Hogsheads on your own private a/c I can at any time draw Bills on Philadelphia provided they are at sight and some times at 20 or 30 days, but as the produce of the Southern States draws a considerable sum of Money from the Northern, it very seldom happens that Bills can be negotiated further North than Philadelphia.

Since Peace took place Tob'a has been a cash article, and I have found it impossible to purchase on any Credit without giving 2 or 3/ per Ct. more than the current price, even for 2 months. therefore I think you would find it your interest to make immediate payment. I will however purchase it in any manner you think proper.

In my former letters I informed you of my Establishment of Watson and Urquhart at Fredericksburg on the Rappahannock. Should your Brig not have sailed before this reaches you I should wish you would order her up that River, where I can load her full as low if not lower than on

this, as Tobacco seems to come in faster to the Inspection on that River than ours. however on either I shall endeavour to give you the necessary dispach. during the winter months for several years past Tobacco and almost every kind of prud-uce has fell and I think will this year. therefore it will be a favourable time to purchase. Annexed you have our price current. And am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant

JOSIAH WATSON

Tob'o	28/	W. I. Rum	3/ to 3/3
Flour	33/	Con'l do	2/ to 2/2
Wheat	5/6 to 6/	Molasses	18 to 20*d*
Corn	2/ to 3/	Bro Sugar	36/ to 45/

Coffee none at markett

JOHN BURGWIN TO GEORGE GIBBS AND CHAMPLIN AND CO.

Wilmington, No. Carolina, 25th December, 1784.

Gentlemen:

THE long and disagreable passage I had from your place of 30 days put it out of my power to give you that early intelligence you wished to receive respecting the Cargo you depended on my House preparing for your Brigantine. On my Arrival I made every enquiry and find our Market extreamly high and Produce very scarce. Tobacco is as high as 7 Dollars per 100 lb. and nothing but the Hard Cash will command any quantity. Rice is not to be had at any rate, N. E. Rum is a Drug and will not fetch but little more than the first Cost, and the Dutys are exacted to a penny, that is the Original Invoices must be exhibited at the Custom House. Coffee and Molasses are the only articles that will yield any profit and a small quantity of each will stock the Market.

If my advice is taken it will be to send the Vessell to Charles Ton or Virginia, where I think you will just now do better than at this place, and I sincerely wish this may reach you in time to prevent a disappointment which must unavoidably happen.

I shall write you again by some other oppertunity should this miscarry, and am Gentlemen Your Most Obedient Servant,

J. BURGWIN

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

My dear Sir,

BEING upon the point of embarking with my dear little Woman, the Young one, and Jane Bell in the *Hydra*, I have only to request in as few words as possible, that you, and your good Lady will remember us constantly in your prayers and endeavor to procure us at least by your good wishes all the winds that will accelerate our passage to Bengal, and a quick and happy return to Newport.

A variety of circumstances not necessary at present to detail, induced me to prefer fitting out the Ship, and loading her for you, in the manner agreed upon, by my Agent Mr. William Robertson of Towerhill, than by myself, and I have desired him to forward to you, Duplicates of the Invoices, and of the policies of Insurance, which you may expect to receive by the first opportunity. In the first instance, as she is cleared out for Madeira and Rhode Island, the Insurance extends no farther than that Island. She could not be cleared out from Great Britain for India, but as soon as I may be presumed to have reached the Limits of the Channel, the Insurance will be continued (if possible) on the same Policies to Chinsurah in Bengal which is a Dutch Factory, within a few miles from Calcutta, where I shall endeavor to enter her, or, at least, make such arrangements with our friends as to get rid of my Cargo, by means of the Country Ships, to advantage and to receive from them my homeward bound Cargo.

At this period I do not imagine I shall extend my voyage to China. The discretionary powers received from you, leave me entirely at liberty, to act for our general welfare, as circumstances may require and I shall avail myself of them to the fullest. I shall subjoin at the end of this a

schedule of my Cargo, as it now stands in addition to which I shall receive at Madeira about seventy pipes of the Wine of the Island and then make the best of my way to the Cape of Good Hope, where it will be necessary to stop for refreshments a few days.

I shall during my absence correspond with you constantly, from every place where there is a probability of my letters reaching you so as to have any effect; from the Cape of Good Hope, and from Chinsurah the moment of my arrival there in particular. My letters will doubtless pass by way of London, unless I have an oppertunity of addressing you directly from India.

The jealousy of the English East India Company has been excited upon occasion of this equipment, but I do not beleive they suspect she is going for Bengal. All Companies, are, however, so arbitrary in their measures, that upon any opening, a great deal of trouble might be given us, and I assure you there is a great deal of caution necessary but I trust my judgment and experience will surmount all the difficulties I may meet with.

If you chuse to hazard writing me in India, you must write covertly to me; Direct your letters under cover to Suetonius Heatly Esqr. Calcutta, Bengal and send them to be forwarded to me, to the care of Mr. Wilkinson, London; never failing to address me as your Supercargo, because if the letters are intercepted no mischief can ensue. The late Revolution has embittered the minds and spirits of many, and made them attentive to all our motions. I say all our motions, because Congress having pronounced me a Subject of the United States, I am ipso facto become so, and look forward with hope and with pleasure, to the many happy days I am to spend with you at Rhode Island. If, however, you can get a bill brought into your House, to naturalize me more formally as a subject of your State, it will not be amis. Indeed I think it will be better, and you may sign my name to any Memorials, or in any manner, you may deem proper to obtain it. You may urge that your own interest, if you choose to make such a plea, is involved. Perhaps

Channing can assist you effectually in the business. If money is wanting do not spare it, but use it with your wonted skill and discretion, towards the attainment of the proposed end. Perhaps all circumstances considered, the probability of my remaining long enough in India to receive your letters is not great. I think however you had better attempt it. At my return I shall stop at the Cape of Good Hope for refreshment, or at St. Helena, but I think as the Spring Season until after the month of April, renders the Coast difficult of access, or at least is attended with danger, in America, I shall put into St. Eustatia and remain there until the commencement of May.

If my letters from India do not regularly reach you, you must not accuse me of inattention because they may miscarry, and in case my letters reach any of my friends in London, I shall desire them to let you know, how I am disposed of. The letters written by the Packet I shall direct to be sent to the care of Isaac Sears Esqr. at New York, as I think I have heard him spoken of, as a Correspondent of yours, and therefore suppose it likely that he will charge himself with the conveyance of your letters, and that you may the more securely depend upon receiving them. But as I have already mentioned, that you are avowed in London to be the Owner of both Ship and Cargo, and that every thing relative to the one or the other, and to the adventure in toto, is made absolutely by you, or on your Account, and it may appear surprizing that from the failure of letters, or any other cause, you may be misinformed or ignorant of any circumstances, that may be inquired of you, for there are impudent people who love to question in every quarter of the world. You have only to wrap yourself up in the air of Mystery, worn by all Great Men in modern times, declare that secrets are sacred, and that the affair is of that Nature, as cannot admit of discourse, any more than any other affair of Commerce, That you depend upon your Nephews prudence to do every thing for you, that is right, and you flatter yourself, that you will not be disappointed in the issue. I know your good sense, will excuse my making these suggestions to you, because my name may

be used in authority to you, but I declare to you that I never mentioned my intention to any person in America except yourself and Wm. Powell, nor in Europe to any person except Mr. Tracey; the first confidentially and to the latter, I mentioned simply, that I was going out Supercargo of your Ship the *Hydra* to India, because as we have been very much together of late, and very intimate, the concealing a circumstance that must necessarily be notorious in a few days, was a ridiculous piece of affectation. I bound him however to privacy not chusing to have it publickly spoken of.

It was an observation frequently made by you during my stay at Rhode Island, that you were sure great changes would take place in the regulation of trade in America before my return. Of this I would have you advise me, by writing me to St. Eustatia because it will be absolutely necessary for my guidance, the moment of my arrival there, I shall let you know of it by the first American Vessel that sails there, and you may answer me accordingly, or indeed you may lodge letters for me there, to the care of one of the best Houses, and to be delivered on my arrival, or returned to you agreeably to any directions, you may subsequently send there. in case I should not get back so soon as I now hope for, which is some time in the winter, or Spring of the year 1786, that is to the West Indies, for I would not near the American Coast in these doubtful seasons, but remain there until the approach of Summer, should it be the year after you may recal easily your letters, or add from time to time by the same means, any other information that may be necessary to convey to me.

You may be sensible that the family connection which unites us in a certain degree to one another, formed one principal inducement for my application to you, in preference to many other Merchants of capital influence, but, another was the character that you have been happy enough to preserve, from your youth to the present day, and which I place the utmost reliance upon, as in fact I have given you the most solid proof. I need not now indulge myself in any

flattering description of the pleasure, both me and Tempe promise ourselves from the mutual improvement of this beginning, but we both perfectly rely upon its having the happiest effects.

It is rather unlucky that a Frost just now delays the last shipping of our Goods, which has filled the River and put an end to all Navigation by lighters or boats, but I trust it Will not last long, for as there appears a prospect of a Southerly wind I hope the business will go on as quickly as possible.

I think the pass you have sent me from the Committee of Congress is by no means explicit respecting the property of the Cargo. Perhaps in the stage of the business when it was given more could not be said, at least upon the grounds of the Memorial, neither do I think myself accurately enough described in the Pass, being stated to be a Subject of the United States, which I cannot well comprehend unless calling myself so, and having their affirmation of it in my pocket, could make me so. Your power helps me out greatly in this respect, because it is as explicit as possible, with respect to the power of outfit and lading her myself or appointing any other to do it, but then it describes me as of London in the Kingdom of Great Britain, which may be said, by men disposed to quibble, to militate against the Terms of the Committee's pass.

I have made these remarks to you my dear friend with the view of letting you see clearly my situation with respect to it. It is too late now I believe to procure any Identification from Congress. If however you think necessary, or prudent, to make the application to them, whether it reaches me or not, so that it remains on record in their Journals, will be of as much consequence. When you receive the Copies of the Invoices the application may be made to them, and they will furnish you with a fresh variety of information to state in your Memorials.

If as I have hinted in a former page it were possible to get a Bill of Naturalization past during my stay in the prosecution of the Voyage, it will reconcile these seeming contra-

dictions, set both me and you at ease, and save us the apprehension of many inconveniences. It is at all times more proper to guard against the consequences of any mistakes, or neglects we may have committed in the beginning than lament them hereafter. This indeed is so much the more necessary, as the India Captains are as jealous of the voyage of the *Hydra* as their Directors fearing that it may militate against their profits and they do not scruple to say that every possible obstruction will be thrown in our way. My letters from Mr. Robertson state this as the curent talk of the day but at the same time adds, that he does not think there is any foundation in authority for it, but that it proceeds entirely from the India Captains, who are fearful of being cut out in their private trade.

I reserve the list of the Officers and other matters to a future letter.

The last two months I have spent at Paris being desirous to shew Tempe a little of this celebrated Kingdom before we bid a final adieu to Europe. She likes France much as I do, and if I had time should like to have spent a year there. The *Hydra* will hover off this Port, which is opposite the Downs, and we shall embark upon her appearance, which is hourly expected. The Watch and Fortepiano were shipt in the *Hero* Captain Youngs the 16th of November.

I remain my dear Sir with the greatest regard and most unlimited confidence Your most faithful and obliged Friend and Servant WILL GREEN

Boulogne Sur Mer in France, December the 26th, 1784.

WINTHROP TOD AND WINTHROP [1] TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, So. Carolina, December 31st, 1784.

Sir,

SINCE our last respects to you, none of your esteemed favours have reach'd us.

[1] Joseph Winthrop (1757–1828) was born in New London, Conn., a son of John Still Winthrop. He removed to Charleston, S. C., and married Mary, daughter of Alexander Fraser, of that place.

We give you the present interruption merely to hand the prices current, to which we are to add, that Rice is at 12/6 per Ct. and on the *decline:* the few Vessels in port will greatly operate in behalf of the Merchants to reduce it still more. Indico (as in quality) is at 3 to 5/ and at these prices, we presume it will continue without any sensible variation.

This being the season of congratulation, we are to offer our best wishes for the prosperity of yourself and friends, and that you and them may always be surrounded with pleasing objects and the most solid happiness is the earnest wish of, Sir, Your Most Obedient and respectful humble Servants,

WINTHROP, TOD AND WINTHROP

P. S. It is computed there are about 80,000 Barrels Rice, 11000 hhds of Tobacco, and a $\frac{1}{4}$ Million pounds weight of Indico of the last Crops made of which very little is yet exported.

J. T.

JOHN GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND COMPANY

Alexandria, January 4th, 1785.

Gentlemen,

I WROTE you of the 29th of last month informing you of my Arrival at this place, of the dull Sale of our Cargo, of Markets etc. our Cargo is still on board as there is no Vent for it at presant. Mr. Watson informs me he has the Quantity of Tobacco allready purchased that we shall want to load us, and expects to store the Cargo we have on board as he sees no Prospect of disposeing of it. the River last Night froze over which perhaps may be of Advantage to us as there can be no more Supplyes of those Articles whilst the River remains shut up. but had not the Ice prevent'd Mr. Watson informs me he would have got us away very soon, but the Tobacco chiefly laying down the River it can not be got up whilest the River remains froze, which in general is not of long duration. So that we shall begin to take on

board directly after the River breaks up. the Price of Rum is 2/2 by the Hogshead but no buyers Molasses 1/6 per ditto. Coffee 1/3 quick Sale. Chocolate dull Sale. Tobacco at 28/ per Ct. flour at 30/ a bb. Wheat at 6/6 bush. and Pork at 40/6 per Ct. etc. from Gentlemen Your Obedient Humble Servant,

JOHN GREEN

[Endorsed,] Per Mr. James of Providence.

BURGWIN, JEWKES AND LONDON[1] TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND CO.

North Carolina, Wilmington, 11th March, 1785.

Gentlemen,

OUR last (a Copy of which is on the other side) was by the *Sea flower* Captain Dyer via New York, which we hope has reached your hands.

The difficulty of procuring the Cargo wanted for the *Nancy*, particularly Rice, has hitherto prevented us from making any progress in loading her, but we shall begin in three or four days, and hope to give her every dispatch that the situation of our Market will permit, tho' it will be near the middle of next Month before we shall compleat what we expect to ship.

We have applied to Messrs. Malletts and Mumford[2] and are assured of their payment, unless any disappointment arises about the proportion of Rice. They have offered us the Turpentine, but as it is impossible to exchange it at this time for Tobacco, we are not very anxious about receiving it at present in hopes we may receive further directions from you before the *Nancy* leaves this. Produce of all kinds continue in demand, very little Rice is made in this State for Exportation. Naval Stores will fall immediately tho Tobacco will not. Lumber is a considerable export, and we shall have both this Article and Naval Stores on hand to supply our friends. We take the liberty to mention these

[1] See *State Records of North Carolina*, XVI. 968. John Burgwin and John London.

[2] Peter Mallett and Roberson (?) Mumford.

circumstances for your government should you incline to favor us with any further commands. We shall at all times be anxious to merit a continuance of your correspondence, and Remain with great Respect, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servants

BURGWIN, JEWKES AND LONDON

Tar 16/
Turpentine 32/ } per barrell
Pitch 26/
Lumber 120/ per thousand
22 inch Shingles 24/
18 do. do. 20/

Price Current
Tobacco 56/ per 100 lbs.
Rice 32/ to 34/ per do.
N. E. Rum 3/10 to 4/ per Gallon: very dull sale
Molasses 2/6 per Gallon.
Sugar according to quality 70/ and 80/ per 100 lb.

CHARTER OF VESSELL

THE Owners of the Schooner *Enterprize* vizt. Stephen Smith, Samuel Wardwell, and Shearjashub Bourne,[1] of Bristol, in the State of Rhode Island, Merchants, do agree to charter the said Schooner to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler of Newport Merchants, on the following Conditions — The Owners are to grave and caulk said Schooner and equip her in a proper manner to perform a Voyage to Europe, and deliver her at Newport by the tenth day of April next, ready to take her Cargo on board. The Schooner to be estimated at five hundred pounds Lawful mony, which sum in case of a Loss said Champlin and Fowler are to pay to the Owners of said Schooner, the Owners in that case to relinquish all right and claim to the Charter party of the Schooner previous to the loss, the Schooner to be at ninety Spanish Mill'd Dollars per Month during the time she is in said Champlin's and Fowler's service, the hire of the said Schooner to commence the day she is deliver'd in Newport and the Owners to take delivery of her in Bristol when she returns, said Champlin and Fowler to appoint a Master, victual and man her at their expence.

Notwithstanding the foregoing the Owners are to furnish

[1] The last two were in 1792 associated in distilling rum at Bristol, a product which found a ready market in Africa.

the said Schooner with a Mainsail fore sail jib and fore topsail which sails are to be deem'd sufficient and the Owners are also to furnish dishes and plates, knives and forks, a teakettle, etc.

Bristol, March 29th, 1784.

STEPHEN SMITH
SAMU'LL WARDWELL

Dimensions: 48 feet Keel, 18½ feet Beam, 7 feet 8 inches hold.

BURGWIN, JEWKES AND LONDON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND CO.

No. Carolina, Wilmington, April, 1785.

Gentlemen,

OUR last was the 19th inst. per the Schooner *Two Brothers* Captain Skinner, which we hope has reached your hands. We have now the pleasure to inclose an Invoice and Bill of Lading for Sundries shiped in your Brigantine *Nancy* amount £2663.3.8 ½ our Currency, dollars at 8/. Inclosed is Messrs. Malletts and Mumfords Account Sales for Captain Champlins four Hhds. Rum, also our account sales for the Rum and Molasses received per the *Nancy*, Nett proceeds to your Credit in account current £1070.17.7. We have made every exertion in our power in the sale of this consignment for your interest, but the scarcity of Money and the little demand at this time for Rum, has kept the price down. What remains unsold we have taken ourselves, in order to close the Sales, and allowed the Owners 4/ per Gallon, which is above the current price, and to the extent of what we expect to gett for it, as we have no motive but a sincere desire to give every possible encouragement to your correspondence, it will be a great satisfaction to receive your approbation. Our last informed you of the difficulty we found to procure in time the quantity of Tobacco required to load the *Nancy*, and we are very sorry your last Letter did not come to hand sooner, which would lessen the Shipment of Rice, but our apprehensions of your Market has

occasioned us to withhold a part of what we have actually purchased for the Brigantine and to prefer filling her up with Naval Stores.

We refer you to Captain Cozens for the prices of our produce at this place, which for your satisfaction we have desired him to be particular in. We here inclose our account current balance in our favour £[*blank*] Currency and shall in our next advise you, in what manner we wish it to be paid.

We have applied for the payment of Mr. Quinces Note, but as he is at present in Europe, his Attorneys will not settle it. they expect him here in two or 3 Months.

The prices charged in the *Nancy's* Invoice are the shipping ones, in Gold and Silver or Bills of Exchange on Europe. Malletts and Mumford are delivering to Captain Ross of Salem, owned by Mr. Gray at the same. Sincerely wishing the *Nancy* safe to you We remain very Respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Humble Servants

BURGWIN, JEWKES AND LONDON

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Dublin, 3 April, 1785.

Gent.,

I HAVE to reffer you to my last respects of the 16th March and now to acknowledge receipt [of] your esteemed favor of the 27th January delivered me yesterday per Captain Sheffield who is arrived at Newry. its a pitty his owners were so misinformed as to our Harbour. Vessels that are American built and draw 15½ feet water can come here, we take out ¼ in Lighters and then the Ships come into Poolbegg and lye always afloat, and we are now laying down Mooreing Chains, as in London. Had she come here I would have sold the flaxseed in one week from £4.7.6. to £4.11. per hhd. I have not now a Cask on hand having finished my last Cargo from Newyork 6 days ago, and at Newry they have not yet sold a Cask.

I send my Clerk there in the morning to ship ½ yours and ½ Messrs. Casey & Co. Seed here, and I go to Newry myself this day week to sell the remainder there if I find the Market tollerable. I offerd Captain Sheffield 2/6 per hhd to come here with his Ship, but he is in a hurry to go away to Lisbon. I am in haste Gentlemen your most humble Servant,

E. Forbes

John Bulkeley and Son to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, the 21st April, 1785.

Sir,

It is a long time since we had the pleasure of hearing from you and fearing our last respects of 12th Jan'y 1776 with the Account Sales of Flour per the *Peggy* Capt. Barron never reached you, we now send you copies of the same with your Account Current with our late society up to the 15th November 1777, and we now inclose you your Account Current of this date with our present firm, by which you will find we are in Cash on your Accounts Rs. 46$004. which we hold at your disposal not knowing whether Messrs. Hayley and Hopkins of London are now your Agents.

You will please observe both Flour and Rice are prohibited in Portugal, so that nothing but Wheat Indian Corn Fish, Lumber and Naval Stores are enterable from the United States and only the three former articles at present in demand.

We are expecting several Indiamen from Asia in the course of three Months when all kinds of India Goods will be very cheap. We have a large parcel of choice old Wine on hand. should you incline to speculate to Lisbon we shall be happy to receive your commands and refering you to our prices at foot remain with sincere regard, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants

John Bulkeley and Son

Lisbon Wine 17$000
Carcavello Do. 20$000 } per Qr. Cask.
Salt . . . . . 2$00 per Moy

Lemons . . . . . 2$600 per box
Bohea Tea 240
Hyson Do. 850 } per lb.

Exchange 64½*d* per $.

[Endorsed,] Per the *Tyger*, Capt. Pheneas Gilbert.

David Sears to Christopher Champlin

Boston, May 1st, 1785.

Sir,

I have received your favours of the 25th ult. and note the contents.

I have likewise the pleasure to inform you that Captain Young has this day sent me a very small Box about ½ foot square and a letter from Mr. Green dated Brighthelmstone 10th September wherein he says I have address'd to your care a forté piano and a watch which I beg you'l forward to our Newport friend, by first Conveyance.

Captain Young makes an apoligy for not delivering me the Box (which is directed to Miss Margaret Champlin) and the letter of Mr. Greens, by saying that they were at the bottom of his Chest under his Cloths that he overlook'd them.

Captain Young while in England loaded and unloaded and loaded again some of his packages may have been roughly handled, but the Box which contains the forte piano seems to be in good order. It is in one of my dry Stores where nothing shall be upon it or touch it untill I receive Miss Betsy's orders or if you would chuse to have it sent up to my house and there taken out of the Box and examin'd by Mr. Selby and repack'd again it shall be done carefully. The little box which is directed to Miss Peggy is in perfect order and cannot have received any injury, it is carefully lodg'd at my house. I shall be happy to receive her orders respecting it, but if a good opportunity offers that I can depend upon I shall hazard the Box for Miss Peggy. Please make my best Compliments to Mrs. Champlin and the young ladies. I am Sir Your Humble Servant,

David Sears

P. S. My Compliments to Mrs. Grant.

Caspar Voght and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Hambourgh, the 24th May, 1785.

Sir,

We have your much esteemed private Favor of the 5th April, together with 40 Crowns handed us by Captain Green which we shall convert in our Money as high as possible and procure the desired set of blue and white China with the most careful Choice, sending it packed up in Box by the Brigs Return, all according to your Directions. We shall at the same time in the best adapted Manner satisfy to your Intents relating to the Article of Callicoes, which indeed from this Market deserves much Reflexion for your Parts. Good Pistol Powder we can allso procure you with the best Conveniency; the superior kind of it rates at 34 R [ix dollars]. per cwt., equalling about $6\frac{1}{4}$ L sterling for 100 wt. Allmost every European Article excepted English Manufactures and the products of the Southern Countries of Europe, will answer with you from hence, and we hope with the greatest Reason our Intercourse to become consequent and useful. Your kind Confidence enlivens out utmost Aims for corresponding to it and we shall be happy in cultivating your worthy Friendship by all Means possible. We remain with perfect Esteem, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servants

Caspar Voght and Co.

Caspar Voght and Co. to Christopher Champlin and Co.

Hamburgh, the 24th May, 1785.

Gentlemen,

Your Brig *Richmond*, Captain John Green, safely arrived here the 21st instant, Ship and Cargo in perfect good Estate. It is with the greatest pleasure we red your much esteemed favours of the 5th April, observing that by Recommendation of Mr. Söderström, to whom we are highly obliged for this Token of Friendship, you pleased to consign us Captain

Green's Cargo of 116 Hgshds. best Virginia Tobacco, together with Two Thousand Spanish Silver Dollars; ordering Returns by the Vessel as per Memorandum, of which we take due Note. The Captain allready handed us the 2000 Dollars, which we shall make Cash of to the best of your Advantage and we are now discharging the Tobacco, in Order readily to dispose of it at the highest Price the Quality will bear; being sound and superior it won't fail to turn profitably, as this Article is allways a very current one and this Market the best for it in Europe, but very much depends on good and fine Quality. You will see by the Current inclosed how each kind stands in price, said Current allso contains your Southern Productions, together with the Prices of Linnen Wares and other Details for your Government. The Prices of Teas generally have much raised since about Six Months, there being no where abundance and continual Purchases made by the English E. I. Company pushing it up at every part: Common good Quality of Bohea Tea now is paid 16½ to 17 Sh. of our Currency which equals about 16/ sterling a li; the prices at Gothenburgh stand in the same proportion. You may depend on our acting for the best of your Interest with regard to this Article as well as to all those of your Demand, giving a Dispatch to the Business as ready as possible. We shall exactly advise you of the succeeding. We hope in full Assurance, this Trial will turn so as to induce you to a lasting and consequent Continuance. We dare say your Concerns will be managed by our Hands to the greatest Advantage possible, and all our Endeavours shall tend to deserve your worthy Friendship and Confidence the more and more.

We are with great Truth and Esteem, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servants,

Caspar Voght and Co.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 24th May, 1785.

Gent,

I wrote you the 3d ulto. adviseing the arrival of the Ship *Belle* Captain Sheffieldat Newry Part of her Cargo address'd to me by your Good selfe and Messes. Casey Son and Green I brought round here, some I disposed of at Newry at 75/. and the remainder I sent into the inland parts of the Country to be disposed of when I get the sales and remittances shall furnish you sales of your flaxseed. it was latterly so dull owing to the arrival together of several vessels from America that the price fell at Newry to £3.2.6 and here to £3.10. I last year inform'd you that this was the earliest market in the Kingdom and that what came early had in general sold much better then that which came in late. My friends Messrs. Jenkins and Gelston of New Hudson experienced this in a small cargo I sold of theirs in March and early in April having averaged above £4.6 per Hhd. Whereas yours will not reach £3.16. I fear but cant yet tell untill I get the sales from the Country. Your Seed was not near so well cleaned as Mr. Gibbs's, and let me particularly recommend it to you to pay more attention to this Matter, as the Clean Seed always commands not only a prefference in the Sale but often 2/. per Hhd more then the other. this was experienced this year in a most astonishing degree. the Dutch Seed that seldom sold for more then 10/ per Hhd more then the America, this year fetch'd £5 and £5.15 per Hhd when yours would only sell for £3.15 to £4. and many of the Country Farmers preferd the Dutch even at this high price as they had last year more then 1/3d more of Good Flax from a Hhd that Seed then they had from the America. this should make your People exert themselves to send it as well cleand as possible to Market.

No doubt Mrs. Haly's Attorney advised my having already remitted him your Accounts £255.3. and as fast as I come in Cash depend it shall be remitted to London.

When I went to Newry I had several of your F:seed Casks measured with those of Messrs. Casey Son and Green's and realy found theirs as large as yours, so that no surcharge of freight could be made against you, tho' let me tell you the long flat bulge Casks the Country People are not fond of buying immagining they do not contain the Quantity of 7 Bushels, and the Round bulge Casks they always preffer. the more they are made so the better, as the people here being more used to the New York and Philadelphia made Hhds which are all round or high bulged, they preffer them. reffering you to my next I remain, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

Exchange on London 8⅞ per Ct. and was lately up at 9 per Ct.

[Endorsed,] via N. York. New York Aug. 10. 1785, received under Cover and forwarded by Gentlemen Y. M. H. S.

NICHOLAS LOW.

CASPAR VOGHT AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND CO.

Hamburg, the 3d June, 1785.

Sirs,

SINCE our above gone in triplicate by way of London, we sold your Spanish Dollars at 27 & 11/ banco per Mark fine silver, for which as per inclosed account sales your account is credited with B'co Mks. 5674.– –.– –.

We unloaded your 116 Hhds Tobacco whose quality unluckely disapointed our eager wishes to give you satisfactory Account sales of them. We hoped to see fine, heavy, sweet-scented Virginia, that would readily have sold 6 pence sterl. per li. and we found it to be most comon Tobacco, not cured at all, quite green and smelling like Grass. We showed it to Capt. Green, who can tell you that at the same time we showed him Tobacco that sells from 5 to 6*d* here, and proved to him yours to be inferior to any common Tobacco in town. So as it was no higher price then 3½/. could possibly be obtained for this Cargo; we consulted Capt. Green, who advised us to sell, as the expected arival

of some other Cargo still would lessen the small prospect of a better market.

In consequence we concluded the Sale as per inclosed Account for which we credit you with B'co Mks. 16680.15.––.

Give us leave to tell you that we think you were very ill served by your Corespondents in Virginia, who certainly never should have admited such Tobacco to be charged for your account.

We think it our duty to make you observe how unprofitable it is to send to this, or indeed to any other Port in Europe, comon sorts of tobacco, since the charges and expenses upon good and bad are nearly the same, and the difference in the proceeds so very material.

Your 116 Hhds. have neated ab't 11£ stg. per Hhd. if they had been of a tolerable good quality they would have sold at least 5/. and neated 17£ sterl. and you would have got in return for £800 Sterl. more Goods. Please to add to this reflection, that in Virginia the difference of the best and common quality is at most 10 shl. currency per hundred weight and makes no more then 2 or 3£ stg. per Hhd.

We wish therefore that if you find any inducement to continue your expeditions to our port, you might always chose the best quality possible, and then we make bold to assure you of an advantageous sale.

Rice from Charlestown is a very good article with us. it's present price here at 16M per Cwt. makes good 18 sh'l Sterl. The prime Cost at Charlestown now is 11 to 12*s* Sterl.

All kind of furrs are equaly a very valuable article, and sell readily according to quality from 10 to 30 per Ct. Profit; the only unsaleable article are Deerskins, which you must avoid sending.

Another material observation in regard to expeditions to our port is that in order to meet a quick dispatch the Vessel must not draw more then 12 feet water; for in the contrary case, the unloading and loading part of the Cargo

30 Miles from hence makes aditional expences and ocasions great loss of time.

You must farther never venture a Ship hither when you cannot calculate its arival before the 15th October, for from medio November till the Month of March our River is froze up, and a Ship ariving later then at the mentioned 15th Octob. runs great risk to freeze in here, and lose 6 Months time at prodigeous Expences. This being the most important points relating to importation here, we now have to give you the necessary Explanations about our exportings Good.

Being desirous to make up by the quickness of dispatch, the bad price of your Tobacco, we used all our endeavours to get the Cargo ready, and we are happy to tell you that this moment all the Goods are on board of the Vessell, and that she may sail with the first easterly wind. You'll see the particulars by the inclosed Invoice for the amount of of which your account is debited B'coM 21253.13.

The proceeds of the Tobacco falling so much short of your expectations and even of ours too, by its inferior quality, we have been obliged to make a proportional diminution on several articles of the returns, in doing which we hope to have met with your approbation.

We supressed ten Chests of Teas, because the price at 16*d* is 3*d* higher then you expected. The immense wants of the english East india Company, since the smugling trade has been so effectualy destroyed, are the cause of this rise; but it is thought that on the arival of their first large suplies, and the first returns of the french and Spanish E. I. Companys, which will be in 15 months hence, Tea will be as low as ever, and then possibly Tea bohea may be had again at a shilling Sterling.

Rushia duck is indeed very cheap at this moment, and we hope you'll be well satisfied with the parcel you receive.

We would not stick to the black mark, as there are but two sorts of this mark in town, one too cours and one too fine for your purpose. The best manufactures of all is Gotcharoffs and of the blue mark; the prices this moment

is 36 Mks., with all the rest this mark signifies nothing as there are of every color good and bad qualities.

We sent you only 20 Reels of Ropeyarn, not being quite sure if it is exactly the quality and the price you intended.

The Ravensduck and Tecklenburgs are of a regular price, we expect to hear from you, if the quality of the latter did answer, or if you want them of a coarser or finer sort equaly to be had. The hemp is not dear now, and there is a more comon quality called Outschott which is to be had at 45M. The Iron you will find assorted according to your order.

The Chalets and Creas are dear this year. You may expect a diminution of 10 per Ct. probably next year upon this article and every other kind of Silesia linnens.

With the Diaper and Tablecloths we wish to have encountered your taste; it will be easier the second time, when your observations upon the Invoice can point out more exactly to us the very thing you would wish to have.

Besides the Articles contained in our Invoice, all other kinds of Linnens, Calicoes, coarse Cloth, and our very cheap bohemia Glassware, may deserve your attention, and it may perhaps not be amiss to make a tryal with them the first time your ship comes here again.

The Port Charges of Capt. Greens Ship have been Mks 626.9. Current money, according to the inclosed Copy of the Brokers note.

Your Tobacco is sold at 3 Months time, and will hardly be paid before 4 or 5 months hence; all our purchases for you are ready money, we thus remain in some months disburse for about the Sum of B'co Mks. 17000, for which we charge you only 1 per Ct. Interest with B' co Mks. 170, and we doubt not but you'll find it reasonable.

All these Sums are brought in your account current inclosed the ballance of which you will find on foot of this not being able to state it before we know exactly how much Capt. Green will want.

There is now nothing more left, then to express to you Gentlemen our earnest wish, that we may have been happy

enough to give you Satisfaction, and so do honor to the recommendation of our mutual friend Mr. Söderström. We

[*Remainder of letter missing.*]

Caspar Voght and Co. to Christopher Champlin

[Hamburg] the 3d June, 1785.

Captain Green is now ready to sail, so you must own we have made all possible dispatch. It merely now depends upon on easterly wind that he may fall down our River, and then we wish him a prosperous voyage. The cargo we dare say you'll find quite to your liking and satisfactory, since we endeavoured to pick and chuse all of the best.

As to your own private Commission, we are sorry it has not been in our power to give you content; the blue and white China being entirely out of fashion here and no demand for it it has been impossible to compleat your order so as to match. therefore by Capt. Greens advice we left it unexecuted alltogether, and in lieu of it send you, for the amount of the 40 Crowns, 5 pieces of choice Chintz and Calicoes, in a Box markd C C of all which the Account inclosed.

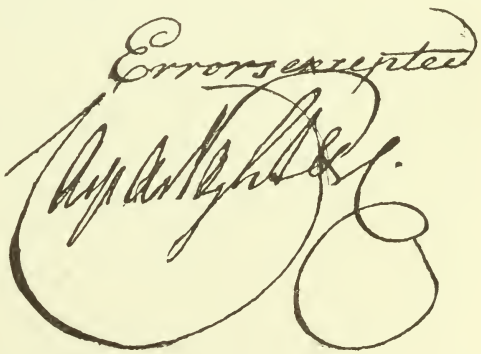
You will also find in the same Box a parcel of Samples of this kind, of which you'll have the measures at foot; however its possible, that when you send us your orders for a particular pattern, not a piece of it may be left, but then it allways may be matched as near as practicable, and very likely more elegant, for we change our patterns here every six months, and great pains are taken allways to bring them to greater perfection.

We shall be very happy if this first tryal with Capt. Greens cargo encourages you to enlarge the business this way, and be an inducement to establish a lasting correspondence between us of consequence, and to our mutual advantage. We shall not fail at all times to use our utmost endeavours to contribute towards it as much as in our power, and make matters as easy as possible. A pitty it is your Tobacco did not prove of better quality, then if that had been the case,

all would have been well; henceforward you must never send such thrash to our market. Superior good Tobacco will allways fetch a good price here, and somewhat more than either in London or Amsterdam but yours is all green and of a bad smell, so that we have been very glad to get rid of it at that rate.

Your new Brigg will be very welcome to us, and you may depend that upon all occasions we shall consider your Interest as our own, and act accordingly, being very sincerely, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servants.

The Width and Length of the Pieces of Callicoes is allways the same and just so as the five pieces you receive per Capt. Green, the prices from 1 to 4.5 shillings sterl. our Ell. We shall be very happy to see you become a large Customer for this comodity as our Manufacturs do exceedingly well and are the cheapest in Europe — but even for that same reason they can and do not give long Credits and must be paid ready Money or in 4 weeks time. We expect your further orders by your Brig and remain very sincerely, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,



Benjamin Peirce to Samuel Fowler and Son

Gottenburg, June 8th, 1785.

Gentlemen,

I arrived at Marstrand yesterday after a passage of 47 days bad weather, the Vessel appears strong but my sails

are in very bad order. As to Markets here I can say but little not having had time to inform myself. Bohea Tea sold at 13*d* Sterling per lb. at the sales. there is no duck at Market, Iron £12:10 per Ton. have Liberty to land my rum but there is no demand for it. shall do every thing in my power. I expect to proceed to Copenhagen in 3 days where I am inform'd Tea is scarce but can't learn the price. Rice is 21*s* Stlg. per Cwt. Tobacco 4*d* Stlg. per lb. I shall write in a few days more particular. Shall give all the dispatch possible. I am, Gentlemen, Servant,

B. PEIRCE

BENJAMIN PEIRCE TO C. CHAMPLIN, SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON, AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Copenhagen, June 20th, 1785.

Gentlemen,

I WROTE you from Sweeden of the State of the Markets there which I imagine has prepared your minds for disagreeable inteligence. I also wrote you at Elsinore that I had sold 25 Hhds Rum at Marstrand for 2/3 Sterling per Gal. and 19 Casks of Rice for 8 Stivers per li., that I was bound to this place with the remainder, where I find Rice at 20/ Stlg per Cwt. and Rum 1/10 per Gal. loaded with every imposition that the Genious of the people are capable of. there is not 20 Chests of Bohea tea in Copenhagen of the last years importation. the last was sold for 1/8 per li. Stlg. Iron is £14 Stlg per Ton Russia Duck 40/ to 48/ Stlg per piece, Ravens Duck 25/ to 30/ per piece, Hemp 28£ to 30 per ton.

They have four India men arrived within the last week and their Cargoes are to be sold the 27th of August but think the Tea's will go high as the Swedes India men did not arrive at Canton the last year and one of the Danes fail'd.

Upon enquiry I found Messrs. J. J. Frolich and Comp'y to be one of the best Houses in this place and have valued myself upon them. Mr. Frolich has petition'd the India Comp'y for the Tea we want but the result God knows. if

I shou'd be obliged to wait the Charter of the Vessel with other expences will ruin my Voyage, if the Tea shou'd sell for 1/6 per li which is the lowest price thought of here, except Tea shou'd rise in America. if it shou'd rise (which I think is probable as one of our India men fails) and I shou'd return without I shou'd be liabel to censure. I shall determine as soon as we know the result of the petition and inform you by first conveyance if I stay. if I shou'd determine to come without the tea I shall sail in 20 days. Capt. Gardner has not arrived. I am Gentlemen in a disagreeable Situation. Your Obedient Servant,

BEN PEIRCE

June 21st. P. S. Since the above have some faint hopes of obtaining the Tea. shall take the greater part of the Iron from Sweeden as it is lower in price and of a better quality. I have a bad inflamation in my right hand which I am affraid will prevent my writing in a few days. I am as before,

B. P.

EBERHARD CHRISTO AND [KOLL?] TO BENJAMIN PEIRCE

Libau in Courland, the 18th July, 1785.

Sir,

I AM much obligated to Mr. John Gabriel Hay of Dantzick for the particular Recommendation to your good selfs. Your Commands shall at all times be executed with due care and integrity beneficial to your Interest, untill I get the honour to be personally acquainted with your good self's: in order to make you an ample description of our Place and its Trade, I am going to reply [to] your most esteem'd favour of the 1st instant.

Respecting the Article of Tobacco I am not able to encourage you to send any, because we don't know how to dispose our Tobacco in leaves, besides are largely supplied with ready cut Tobacco from Hambro' and Holland. but small blew or green Coffé beans you may send as much as you choose, as we can run the same of to advantage. concerning

the other Spices as Rice, Indigo Tea Bohea etc. the Quantity ought not to exceed above Five thousand pound weight, to which you may add 6 per Ct. for duties. Relative our Weight 115 lib. our weight render 100 lib. at Hamburg and One Hundred Rixdollar our money ruling at present equal to 100 Rixdollar Hamburger Banco. The price per Coffé rules now 64 Rixd Alberts per Ship pound of 400 lib. Rice Rx 20 Alberts per Ship pound. Indigo Rixdollar 100 till 200 per Ship pound.

We exporte from hence all kind of Grains, Flaxes, Lineseed, Skins and Hemp. how the present Prices ruling now you'll be pleased to take notice of the inclosed Account Current of Prices for your Gouvernment. We have no material Trade with Sail, Cloth, it being sold after the rate of Rx 7 à 10 a piece, according to the Quallity. Pass Hemp rules Rx 9 à 10 Alberts per Ship pound. The Duties upon these Articles are not above 6 per Cent. We have the Liberty to importe all kind of Merchandize as well as to exporte it. You may calculate our Port Charges at about 2/5 Rixdollars Alberts upon a Last.

When ever you are induced to make a tryal to our Port with a small Cargoe, you'll be pleased to import different kind of your produce by taking our Goods in return, in that case you'll be a Judge how it will answer. We make 11 to 14 Feet water upon our Bar, according to what kind of weather, our Port being reckoned of one of best Harbour's in the whole Baltick. I conclude very Respectfully, Sir, Your most Obedient and Humble Servant,

EBERHARD CHRISTO [AND] KOLL

FRANCIS ROTCH TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Providence, 25 July, 1785.

Dear Sir,

YOUR favor dated the 23rd inst. came to hand last evening. The money mentioned therein Mrs. Hayley requests you will be so good as to send to her here by some safe hand. The papers respecting the business in Chancery are inclosed

in a box M H No. 1 by the *Mentor* Captain Nichols lately arrived at New york directed to Mrs. Hayley to the care of Murray, Mumford and Bowen at New york. I am sorry to inform you the box has not yet come to hand. I have seen Murray this morning here and he informs me it is probable the *Mentor* will unload at Amboy in order to avoid a double impost duty which has just taken place at N. York. I shall write by the first opportunity to them about it. I beg you will be so good to do the same if any packet should happen to be going directly from Newport.

I regret the more the delay of this box from your having so good an opportunity to return the papers by Crawford in Messrs. Russells Ship who is to sail on Thursday next. I hope it will come in time to save this conveyance, if *you* should receive it in time pray open it and take out your papers, and afterwards send it here to Mr. Nichols *in* Mrs. H's absence.

Mrs. Hayley requests her Compliments to be presented to you Mrs. Champlin and all the family. She is not yet quite recovered from one of her most violent headacks. My Compliments also. I am, Dear Sir, Yours,

F. Rotch

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 27th July, 1785.

Gent.,

I beg leave to refer you to my last of the 24th May adviseing my having remited Mr. Alexander Champion of London your Account £255.3.10. Stg.

Have now to hand you Sales of your 190 Hhds Flaxseed per the Ship *Belle* Capt. Sheffield neat proceeds £672.6.0. at your Credit in Account Current and tho' the Cash is not yet all rec'd yet have remited the Ballance of your Account Current this day as you'l see by the same which is now enclosed and which with the Sales on examining I hope will be found free from error.

I have charged no freight on your Seed, as I think your bill ladeing mentioned having been paid in Rhode Island and when I was at Newry in my hurry I gave up the same to Capt. Sheffield and paid him his Primage of $4\frac{1}{2}d$ per Hhd. but if you have not already done it you can pay the freight to Messrs. Casey and Son and Green. as Messrs. Casey and Co. and your Seed was mixed and in one Vessel the sales of the Whole were kept together and the averige setled in proportion. There is no aditional Charge to you on account of the Seed being consigned me at Newry. Indeed I am sorry the Sales did not turn out better, assure yourselves I did my utmost for your Interest therein as if it was my own that up the Country did badly, but I charged no commission on it.

Our Harvest on account of the great drought we had in May June and part this month has been much injured as well as the Flax Crop, and I apprehend there will be little or none of the Seed saved so that I make no doubt this article will answer equaly as well the ensuing year, and if you ship any do it as early as you can and let the Casks be made like those of Newyork round bulged and not so long as yours, the people being so much more used to the Philadelphia and Newyork casks they do not like those made in any other way, which I mention for your Goverment.

There is no new duties laid on any articles of American products nor bounty given; good Barel Staves, square Oak timber, inch boat boards, Ashes and all other your products will do here, and if a glut of any should happen they can always be exported to another market. inclosed is an abstract of our Imports and Exports to and from your ports for your goverment, but how the prices of your products may be, is impossible to determine at a future day, and let me reccommend what ever article you ship here let it be of the b[es]t kind. the Staves from your place are the worst I ever saw, not worth 40/ per thousand. I sold Newyork Staves in March last 50 M. and averiged £5.15., and Philadelphia which is still better at £6. and to £6.10 per M. and they would now fetch £6. Square Oak timber

£5. per ton the longer and larger the better. let it be well squared sound and clear of sap. Beaver Skins, Fox Skins and Deer Skins in the hair also do well, Tobacco very dull at 13*d* per li and duty 10*d*, Rice also dull and little quantity gluts this market. the duty is 8/ per Ct. the other duty on your exports are very trifleing. Observe Barel Staves must be all white Oak, 30 inches long 5 @ 6 broad and at least half an inch thick on the small or fether edge and shaved as the Phila. Staves are that is the roughness taken off. a few large pipe Staves 7 inches broad and 2 thick would also do, and some broad thick Barel heading, but as free from Sap as possible and at least full half inch thick.

Shiping Goods of an inferior quality does not answer. I am, Gent, Your mo: hu: Servt.

EDW'D FORBES

Fish Oil for Curriers and Lamps sell from 2/2 to 2/6 per call. there is not much Spermacitie sells here. I have a parcel and sells slow at 3/3 to 3/4 per Gallon. duty on Oil only 13/ per Ton. Ship Treenels, a Guinea to 40/m per thousand, as in quality.

DOHRMAN AND COMPANY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

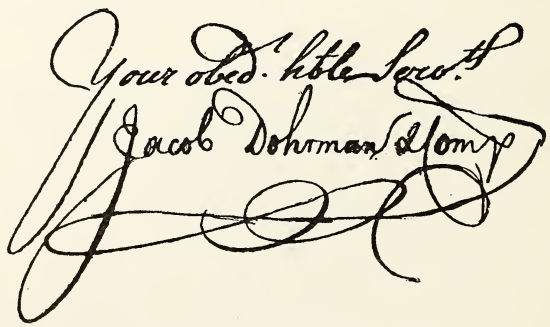
Lisbon, 23d August, 1785.

Sir,

HITHERTO we have not had the pleasure of paying you our respects. We now take the Liberty to tender you an offer of our best Services, whenever you find it eligible to speculate to this place, simply assuring that we have it in our Power and have always made it our study to give every Satisfaction, of which a single Essay will convince you effectually, in case you should be unacquainted with the Character of our House. Your Fish is a very current article for this Market and generally meets a speedy Sale, as the consumption thereof is very great. the first Cargoes especially in fall and spring of the year will do well. the Price had govern'd here this Summer 4½ to 5 Spanish Dollars per our Quintal

of 128 li. free from Board, but commonly in fall commands a higher Price. Our Crops of Grain have also this Year renderd but very poorly so that it may be expected our Prices will get up very soon. If you could therefore ship some Ind: Corn, or cause the same to be shipd or Wheat from any of the Southern States, as has been this Year frequently the case, we have no doubt but you would find your Account by it provided it arrives good conditiond and is laid in reasonable, the Wheat at farthest not higher then a Spanish Dollar, and the Indian Corn about $\frac{1}{2}$ Dollar per Bushell with you on Board. however there is no stipulation as to a little more or less. Our Crop of Oil looks very promising, which may have some Influence on Staves, which have been a great Drug of late. the last good Pipe Staves from 55 to 56 inches we disposed of at 50$000 v.[1] Barrel ditto may be quoted about 20$000 and Hogsheads 30$000 v. per mil. Duties and Charges thereon are very high and amount from 30 to 35 per Ct. The Prices of our India Produce may be expected lower at the public Sales, which are now commencing of those Ships which are come in of late.

We refer you for more particulars to the annexed Prices and at all times happy to render you or Friends agreeable Services. We subscribe with great Respect, Sir,



Late under the Firm of H. Cremervan Celler and Dohrman.

[1] Vellon

Amsterdam	49
London	65¾
Genoa	695
Paris	438

Lemons very scarce 3600 v. } per Box will be in Season
Oranges out of Season } and lower 6/w or 1 Mth. hence. } put
Lisbon White Wine per Pipe . . . . . 70$000 v. } free
Carcavella . . . . . do. 80$000 } on
Oil per Almud . . . . . 2700 v. } board.
Salt per Moy . . . . . 2800. 3200 v. }

good American Wheat 400 to 420 v. } per Alquer free from Board
Indian Corn . . . 230. 260 v. } or clear of all Corn Market Charges which are from 50 to 60 v. per Alquer.

N. B. 2½ Alquer are computed to a Bushell, but we experience the Measure generally falls short from 2 to 3 per Ct.

This Day we had the first public Sales of Teas, from one of the Ships returnd of late, greatest part of which were rebought by the Proprietors at the following Prices vizt.

Bohea Tea	200.	220 v. per li.	
Canfu	400.	420.	these and all other
Songlo	300.	320.	India Goods have a
Souchon	500.	540.	Drawback of 8 per Ct.
Hysan	740.	760.	on Exportation, if
Tonkay	350.	370.	ship'd from the
Pearl Tea	1600.	1700 v.	Lisbon River.

Nankeens stand yet at 900. 960 v per Piece.
Ginsang plenty here and dull Sales. Naval Stores the same.
One Spanish Dollar 800 v.
Premium for the Risk of Algereens to the Moorish Powers 1½ to 2 per Ct. and probably will be lower yet during Winter.

[Endorsed,] favored by Capt. Wilson Jacobs.

John Bulkeley and Son to Christopher Champlin

Lisbon, the 14th October, 1785.

Sir,

We have now before us your esteemed favour of 22nd June, and glad to find you had received the Account Sales

of the *Peggy's* Cargo of Flour, as also your Account Current, which you have noted in our conformity.

We have remitted the Rs. 46$004 that we were in Cash for your Account to your friend Mr. Alexander Champion of London at the Exchange of 65½*d* per $ and ordered him to place the amount to your credit advising you thereof. We are very glad to see Congress was going to regulate Foreign Commerce and hope they will be able to settle a treaty with Portugal to mutual advantage.[1]

Our Market promises to support good prices for Wheat untill next Harvest and we believe the medium price will be about 440 per Alquer on board.

Good dry Codfish sells at 4$200 to 4$400 per Quintal on board and we think 4$000 per Do. will be supported till Lent.

The Truce between Spain and the Algerines is now at an end, so that our Coast will not be infested with their Cruisers and your Colours may now navigate to Portugal without any risk all which we mention for your government and remain, Sir, Your obedient Humble Servants

JOHN BULKELEY AND SON

[Endorsed,] Per Captain Power, Q. D. C.

CASPAR VOGHT AND COMPANY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND COMPANY

Sirs, Hamburg, the 1 November, 1785.

SINCE our last of the 22d June which together with the duplicates we hope are safely come to hand, we did not think it worth while to trouble you with any of our advices, but now having a direct oportunity per the *George and Patty Washington*, we embrace the same to give you some notice of the present state of our market.

With common Sorts of Tobacco, we are abundantly overstockt, and is at 3/ in a manner unsaleable, and those of a

[1] The first treaty between the United States and Portugal was made in 1840.

somewhat better quality go hard at 3½ to 4. None but best York River which would fetch 6½ and fine yellow Maryland 7/ are in demand, but none of them in town.

Rice keeps up at 17 Mk which yields a reasonable profit. Whale oil and finns are chief articles at present, and would meet with an excellent market; if they could be provided at reasonable prices you would find it worth while to consign us such a Cargo. At all events we expect to see Captain Green here again soon, or at least early in the Spring, with a Cargo of some article or other, since we make no doubt but the Returns by him must have met your approbation. Should any thing have been amiss, it may be rectified in future, and your perscriptions shall be allways punctually obeyed, since we will every way strive to please you to the utmost in our power.

In hopes of being soon favored with your commands, we referr to the inclosed Price current, by which you'll see Linnens are grown somewhat cheaper, and most sincerely remain, Sirs, Your most obedient humble Servants,

CASPAR VOGHT AND CO.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO —— WAUGH

Dear Mr. Waugh, Newport, November 3d, 1785.

ABOUT two months past Mrs. Grant delivered me your letter inclosing your letter of Attorney, the want of which prevented my applying in behalf of Mr. Bells[1] Heirs for restoration of his Estate confiscated and sold by act of this State. having employed Council and inquired into Facts, find Mr. Bell is charged in the Libel filed by our State Attorney against his Estate in 1779, December, of having withdrawn himself from this Country after Hostilities were commenced at Lexington 1775, and joining the King of Great Britains Fleets and Armies, and levying War against this Country, and dying in arms against the same, which comes in the fullest Description under an Act made in 1777,

[1] Richard Beale. *Rhode Island Col. Rec.* IX, 139.

by this State, of confiscation, added to which Mr. Bell's name is enroled in the journals of our Secretarys office as a Free Citizen of this State, and did use that Privilege by voting in our elections for our Civil officers, which effectually forecloses any Plea we can establish to make a British Subject of him. it therefore rests on the Clemency of our General Assembly, my Counsel having applyed without any hope. many others, whose Estates have been confiscated and sold, have applyed in vain, and no charge coud be exhibitted against them of being in arms against this Country. this was my opinion two years ago when I wrote you to lay in your Claim, with others at London. Mr. Bells Heirs having lost their Fathers Estate from his being in arms for the King gives them the first Claim to His Majestys Favour. your Claim upon the line of justice can be supported for £1200 Sterling being the sum it cost including repairs etc. If you require proof it can be sent. You say I am named in Mr. Bells Will as an Executor. this Country being independent places me in the line of Forreigner with respect to British Laws, of course incompatable to act. I therefore, hereby utterly refuse to accept the Trust and appointment of Executor as ordained by the last Will and Testament of John Bell Esquire late of Newport Rhode Island, in America Deceas'd, and renounce all pretention to the same, as Witness my hand and seal at Newport Rhode Island this third day of November A. D. 1785.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

CONOLLY MCCAUSLAND AND ROBERT CAMPBELL TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Gentlemen,

INCLOSED you have your Account Sales of 179 Hhds. of flaxseed consigned to us per the Ship *Faithful Steward* the Nt. Proceeds four hundred and thirty four pounds 1/6, ballanced by our remittance to Mr. Alexander Champion Atty to Mrs. Mary Hayley, as you directed, being four

hundred and four pounds fourteen shillings Brittish Money Ex. 97¼ per Ct.

We apprehend on examination you will find the Sales equal to your expectation and in amount more than many who adventured in the trade this year and you have an advantage in the remittance of upwards of one per Ct.

Our letters per the *Steward* being all lost when that vessel was wrecked near the Delaware, prevented your being earlier informd of these Sales or of the cause why you had not an immediate remittance as you required but the large importation of flaxseed this season and the prospect in consequence of a low price in the market induced us to sell on Credit rather than run the chance of having the Seed lye over untill next year and we were right in our opinion as large quantitys are now on hand and in one House alone there is one thousand Hhds. belonging to some American Speculators, which they must feel and alltho you are remitted the whole amount we can assure you with great truth considerable outstanding Debts remain and which must remain for some time to come. therefore we flatter ourselves that you will approve of our conduct in as much as we have by giving time for the payment been enabled to close the transaction we believe equal in point of amount to any Sales made here or in Ireland and we can assure you that the closing sales of many who coud not run off their parcels was as low as 38/ and some said to be lower. we cannot avoid remarking your measure and cask is smaller than the Philadelphia which proves highly injurious to yourselves, but your flaxseed stands well in repute and we recommend your attention to the foregoing circumstance. Flaxseed, white oak plank, large knees, keel pieces, or large lumber, pot and pearl ashes, a little spermacaeti oyl, and a few boxes of spermacaeti candles woud answer here; but never attempt Tobacco or Rum — the former is imported in large quantitys from Virginia, the quality of the latter will not afford our high Duty and the risk otherways is too great and in point of export we fear it will not do in other markets.

Shoud this transaction meet your approbation we shall

be satisfied and with an offer of our best services remain, Gentlemen, your most Humble Servants,

Conolly McCausland
Rob't Campble

Streen Hill near Newtown Limavady, 22d December, 1785.
[Memo.] near London Derry.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 24th December, 1785.

Gent,

I last wrote you the 27th July handing Sales of your flaxseed per the *Belle* Captain Sheffield. By the Bearer Captain Haynes of the *Happy-return*, I received your favour of the 15th September and have duely noted its Contents. I forwarded your Letter inclosed to the Gentlemen near L: Derry who I hope has ere this forwarded your friends in London remittances for proceeds your f:seed. The Sale of this article in the Northern Ports was very late last Season oweing to the long drought, and probably it was that which occaisioned remittances not having been so soon made.

I have got the inclosed Paper Printed for the information of my friends in America, and wish it may be usefull to you. Oak Bark will if sent of a Good Quality and the rough rind well paird off be an Article of considerable Consumption here and our Dublin Society have granted a Premium of twenty Shillings for the first One hundred Tons and Ten Shillings per Ton for the next first Eight Hundred Tons imported into this Kingdom, of which Information I wish you and your friends may avail yourselves off by sending some here as early in the Summer as you can, together with Pott Ashes of the first Quality and some first White Pearl ashes, with which and some *Good* Barel, Hhd and Pipe Staves a Vessel might be soon loaded in June or July next. Pot Ashes are an Article of great consumption here, as well as Staves. I remain Gentlemen Your most humble Servant

Edward Forbes

P. S. for your further Information I inclose you a printed paper relative the Bounty on Bark. there are few Men in Business here that can give their friends this information but having a friend at the Society I get the earliest Inteligence. Wishing you many happy returns of the Season. we have also a considerable Consumption for fish and Train Oil for Lighting Lamps and Curriers use and sells at 26 to £29 per Ton, fine White Spermacitie Oil is worth 3/ to 3/6 per Gallon and hope next Winter there will be a good consumption for it. I sincerely wish you many happy returns of the season.

Nathaniel Russell to Christopher Champlin

Charleston, 21st January, 1786.

Dear Sir,

In consequence of your Letter and power of Attorney from Messrs. J. J. Frölich and Company I waited on Mr. Legare [1] and have received from him £100.9.6 which I have invested in a bill of Exchange drawn by Messrs. Vose and Graves on Messrs. Graves and Company at 60 days sight, payable Messrs. J. J. Frölich and Company, for 1028 Guilders, exchange 10 Guilders 13 Stivers for one pound sterling, which is the rate of exchange fixed here, and 2 per Ct. Pem. as Accounts below. Mr. Legare returns the Ballance outstanding and says he will pay it when received. enclosed is a Letter from him to Messrs Frölich & Co.

I am exceeding sorry that it will not be in my power to comply with your Request with respect to the shipping you 80 bbls. Rice. I have not received one shilling on your Brother's Account. his Debt is due from the Estate of Wm. Stitt and General Green,[2] neither of which have paid any thing, had not Stitt unfortunately died he would have paid me this year punctually, and now I shall receive only in proportion with the other bond Creditors which will be

[1] Samuel Legare.

[2] Nathanael Greene, who had become security for the Mercantile house of Hunter and Banks, and remained embarrassed until his death in June, 1786.

about £500 out of £2600 this year. General Green promised to pay punctually the 1st January, but his affairs are so embarrassed that I am afraid I shall get but little from him this Crop, and bills cannot be negotiated on you at sixty days sight. my friends to the Eastward have given me orders to pay here four times as much as I shall receive this year. I am with great Regard, Dear Sir,[1]

Your most Obd. Humble Serv.
Nath. Russell

	Sterling.
Bill of Exchange 1028 Guilders at 10. G. 13 Stiv. is	£96.10.7
2 per Ct. prem.	1.18.7
Commissions for Receiving and Remitting	2.10.–
	£100.19.2

Credit.

By Cash of S. Legare	£100.9.6	
Balance due N. R.	9.8	100.19.2

Protheroe and Claxton to Christopher Champlin

Bristol, 23d January, 1786.

Sir,

We are favored with yours of the 1st November, enclosing an Order for a few Articles to be shipped you by the first opportunity, for New York, Boston or Philadelphia. at present there is none offering for either of those Ports, but whenever there is, We shall comply with your Orders, and attend very particularly to the directions you have given us. Numberless have been the Applications made to us to ship Goods to different parts of America, but hitherto we have declined executing a single Order, knowing the difficulty people there must labour under of making their Remittances, however well inclined they might be; but the

[1] He married, in 1788, Sarah Hopson.

knowledge we have of Mr. Wright, and the great regard we know he has for our Interest, will occasion our executing with much pleasure the Order you have sent us. The premium of Insurance all through the last Year on American Bottoms was from three guineas and a half to Six Guineas per Cent.; on British Bottoms 2 per Cent.; much will depend on the knowledge the Underwriters have of the Vessell and Master, and whether many Captures have been made by the Algerines about the time we may want your Insurance made; but you may be assured that we shall take Care to get the premium full as low as it can be done in London, and it is possible we may be able to get it done at 3 Guineas per Cent., but we do not think it probable.

We wish you had favored us with the Names of your Correspondents at the different Ports you have ordered us to ship your Goods to, as we do no Business with any House at either of the places you have mentioned, nor indeed at any Port in America. Our Market is at present rather bare of American Produce. At foot you have the Current Prices, And We remain, Sir, Your very obedient Servants

PROTHEROE AND CLAXTON

Pot Ashes	18/ to 25/ per C	Free
Pearl Ashes	29/ to 32/	Do.
Bees Wax	£8 to £8.15 per C	Duty 2½*d* per C.
Pig Iron	£5 to £7.10	Free
Bar Do.	£16 to £17	Do.
Carolina Indigo	20*d* to 5/ per C	Do.
Cod Oil. £22. Seal £26 to £30 Free if British Fishery....	Spermaceti £36 to £41 per Ton. If taken by Natives and imported in British Bottoms, Duty 9/10 4/5 per Ton.	

If in American Ships pays a Duty of 13/2 2/5 per Ton

Sassafrass	7/ to 8/ per C.	Duty 4/4 4/5 per C.
Tar.....13/ to 14/	per bbl	1/. 3/8 per bbl
Turpentine 10/ to 10/6	per C.	2/2 2/5 per C.
Tobacco...19*d*. to 22*d*.	per C.	Duty 1/3 per C.

Nathaniel Russell to Christopher Champlin

Charleston, 6th March, 1786.

Sir,

Enclosed you have Messrs. Vose and Graves third bill of Exchange for 1028 Guilders and 1 Stiver in favor of Messrs. J. J. Frolich & Co. of Copenhagen on Messrs. Graves and Co. of Amsterdam at 60 days sight, the two first I forwarded you by Captain Hull. I would have sent you the 80 bbs. Rice by this opportunity, but could not sell a Bill of Exchange on any Terms, and Rice cannot be bought at one days Credit, and no prospect of receiving a shilling on your Brothers account. the Legislature are now sitting and have continued to shut up the Courts until January next. I have not received £200 for all his Cargoe of Negroes and I see very little prospect of any payments. it will be out of my power to ship you any Rice. I am with Respect, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

Nathaniel Russell

Lane Son and Fraser to Christopher Champlin

London, 30 March, 1786.

Sir,

Our Friend Geo. Gibbs Esqr. of your place has acted with so much integrity and punctuality in the course of his business with us and has shewn himself so extremely ready to do us any Service in his power that it is impossible for us to refuse putting up the Goods you have ordered from us, notwithstanding we have made a determination to open no new account with any person in America that requires any Credit whatever and we actually wrote to Mr. Gibbs sometime ago to recommend no new person to us. Your Punctuality with the late Mr. Hayley's house we presume was equal to his with us, or he no doubt would not have written to us on the subject. if we find it so we shall think ourselves under obligations to him for it and look upon it as an additional mark of his Esteem. We have seen Mr. A.

Champion, Jun'r. who confirms the whole of what you say and tells us he has since received some of the Money you speak of, so that the balance due from you to Mrs. Hayley is less than you quote and will no doubt be intirely settled in a few months, as we observe the Funds for that purpose are all of this side the Atlantic. Your Friend Mr. Forbes has also sent us word he shall remit us 500£ out of the proceeds of the Flax Seed consigned to him and you may depend we shall forward advice of the receipt of it as soon as it comes to hand, and we shall immediately put your order for Goods in hand and forward them to you via Boston or New York in an American bottom, and shall in other respects follow your directions as punctually as we can but do not think we shall effect the Insurance you order on them on the terms you mention but shall get it done as low as any one will who pays equal attention to the goodness of the persons who subscribe their policies. the Algerines have been very troublesome and continue so unless the United States will buy them off as all other powers are obligd to do that find it their Interest to keep well with them.

We are very Respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servants

LANE SON AND FRASER

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN, SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Dublin, 19 April, 1786.

Gent,

I BEGAN the Sales of Flaxseed at £4.10 to £4.5 per hhd and had sold about one half the Quantity consigned me last week to my country Customers, when some Persons who had Seed consigned them, finding they were not selling so fast, or apprehending more would arrive, lowerd the price to 82/6 and down at £4, at which I have been selling some days and am now determind to stand my Ground, as our whole Import of Dutch and American is not more than 6000 Hds which am certain we might have disposed of at

£4.5, had not Gentlemen who had Seed from your Place, etc., been intimidated. For I am confident all thats imported will be wanted. Its astonishing the People give such a Prefferance to the Dutch which keeps up at £5.2.6 to £5.5. here we dont sell above 800 or 1000 Hhds of it, but in the Ports of Derry, Newry, and Belfast, they have imported 11000 Hhds from Rotterdam this Year which has been mostly all sold there before they began to buy the American Seed, the prices of which by my letters this days post was £4 per hhd at Derry and Newry, and at Belfast only 75/ per hhd when the Dutch was £5. indeed the Dutch Seed is much better cleand and a larger Grain than yours. I have the Pleasure to tell you that what you sent me was cleaned as well as any that came here and I hope you'll continue to do so, but I do not think its so well fannd as it might be. the running it thro' the Fann should be the last Operation as it takes out all the Dust and faulty Seeds, which is the Mode they pursue in New York and that Seed is remarkably well cleand. if you can do *yours better*, it will make it command a prefferance in the Market; I have dispatchd some your Seed to my friends at Drogheda and some into the inland Country about 50 Miles off, which I thought better than to let it go at £4. upon the whole I hope to hand you agreable Sales and you may both depend that your respective orders shall be duly complyd with in making Remittances as fast as I am in Cash for the Produce. indeed to support the Price was obliged to give two and three Months Credit for the greater Part of it but to safe good Men I think. I am very respectfully, Gent, Your most obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

I reffer you to the inclosd Printed Paper of our Imports and Exports which I had purposely printed for the use of my American friends. the directions if attended to will be serviceable and at all times of the Year you may thereby see how to assort a Cargo for this Market as all your products are saleable here.

[Endorsed,] Per the *Hope*, Captain Gyles.

Agreement with Joseph Foster

It is agreed on by, and between Richard Downing Jennings and Co. for and in behalf of William Green Esqr. Super Cargo of the Ship *Hydra* on the one part and Joseph Foster of the State of Mary Land on the other part, to wit.

The said Joseph Foster engages to go on board the Ship *Hydra* and to take the command of the same in Quality of Captain and to manage, oversee and direct the said Ship during her residence in the West Indies, and from thence that is to say from one of the West India Islands as the said William Green, or some one acting for him shall direct, to conduct and navigate the same to the Port of New Port in Rhode Island with out any deviation from such Destination as by express orders for that purpose might be described but what is rendered necessary and unavoidable by stress of Weather, or any other of those accidents to which all adventures by Sea are exposed, and that he will faithfully and truly acquit himself of the Trust so reposed in him and the said Richard Downing Jennings and Co. acting for the said William Green, on their part do engage to pay the said Joseph Foster for and in consideration of such service to be performed by him, one hundred Spanish Dollars in Specie, and further to allow him on board the said Ship *Hydra* all the Room he might want or have occasion for under the Description of Privilege and do further engage that the said Ship shall sail wind, weather and unforseen accidents only accepted, from the West Indies, on or before the tenth day of June next ensuing, and that for all the time he the said Joseph Foster might by accident or any other unforeseen cause be detained on the said Ship beyond the sixth day of July next, he shall be allowed at the Rate of two Dollars per day always provided no new Agreement takes place between the Parties in the mean time and it is further agreed to allow the said Joseph Foster the usual and customary consideration of one dollar per day for his expences while in the West Indies.

Anno. 1786. St. Eustatius May the fifth, this Agreement signed and interchangeably passed.

Joseph Foster
R. D. Jennings and Co

In presence of
Robt. Hodge
Jno. Cadell

Orders to Captain Foster from William Green

You are to proceed with the Ship *Hydra* under your command direct to Newport, Rhode Island, where upon your arrival, you are to deliver her up to Christopher Champlin Esqr. her Owner, and on whose account and risk she is laden. You are to be extremely careful not to deviate from your route, under any pretence and to take the utmost care of all her Stores, of every denomination, which may be or are committed to you, and to deliver the same, with the Ship in good order.

You receive herewith the Ships Sea letters of Navigation from the Honorable the Congress of the States, and her Register, which you are to deliver upon your arrival to Mr. Champlin.

And whereas a considerable article in the Ships Cargo is Salt petre, Which is as dangerous as common Salt in case of the Ships making any water, you are particularly advised to sound her Pumps every four hours, and to pump her out every watch, or four hours, that the cargo may not be liable to damage.

On your arrival at Newport it is understood that you see the Ship cleared of all running Rigging, Sails, Topmasts, Topsail and other yards, sparrs, boats, etc., etc., and every thing of the kind quality, and denomination of Stores, with which you are encharged, agreeable to the instructions you may receive from the aforesaid Christopher Champlin Esqr. before you quit her.

Wishing you a good Voyage I remain, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

W. Green, *Supercargo*

St. Eustatius 5th May, 86.

Reuben Harvey to Christopher Champlin

Cork, 17th May, 1786.

Esteemed Friend,

I DULY received thy very acceptable letter dated the 6th of December whereby I find that my advices respecting Flaxseed were too late for thee to fix on a Plan the past Season, which I am sorry for, as I believe Money wou'd have been made by Seed sent here from your Place. I sold 500 to 600 hhds. this Spring at £4. to £4.8 per hhd., which I believe exceeded the prices at most of the Northern Markets; Have not yet heard how the Season closed in Dublin. We have none left here. When thou finds it convenient to ship a Cargoe to my adress I shall be willing to accommodate thee by accepting thy Bills as before mention'd, and am with regard Thy sincere Friend

Reuben Harvey

Staves are declined here in price owing to great quantitys lately landed from Philadelphia. Barrel Staves sell at £7.10 to £6. per M as in quality. Pearl and Potash 28/ to 30/ per Ct. Oak Timber £3.10 per Tun. Boat Boards 15/ per 100 feet.

William Green to Christopher Champlin

St. Eustatius, May 20, 1786.

Dear Sir,

IT is to be understood that the Condition on which this Consignment is made as to Commission; is, that it is not to exceed on the Sales Two and a half per Cent. and Two and a half per Cent. on the Receipts.

That no part of the Goods is to be transported out of the place of your residence under any subordinate Consignment and not at all without the best Guarantee.

That no longer Credit is to be given than Six months, and that not without an ample security being given for the accomplishment of the engagement.

The Charges of Merchandize to be added to the foot of the Invoice. Whatever Articles they may consist of.

As Trade is carried on now a days, I am sure that no

Consignment will bear so great a Commission as five per Cent. Nor any purchases, that the United States can produce, bear a Commission of five per Cent thereon. The American Merchant will soon feel himself under the necessity of conforming in this respect to the practice of Europe or he must give up his profession. The Terms I have already stated are those I have made here, with this Addition that the Commission of Two and a half includes all Storage, Porterage, boathire, etc. etc. and Terms which shall regulate my business not only in Newport but in every part of America.

Wishing you health and Prosperity I remain, Dear Sir, Your most humble Servant,

WILL GREEN

BRYAN AND WILLCOCKS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Cork, 20 June, 1786.

Sir,

WE are favored with your address by our friend Captain Aron Sheffield, and embrace this opportunity to make you a tender of our services; as no House in this place is more capable in all respects to serve their friends, we flatter ourselves that in all your Commands we will be able to give you Satisfaction. The prices of Lumber daily decline. we sold Philadelphia Barrel Staves three Months ago for £8 to £8.15 per M. and are now selling a Cargo at £7 but we think they can't come much lower. Oak Timber, plank, and Boat boards, are very slow sale, at low prices.

What Flaxseed we had this spring from Boston sold at saving prices. after paying Freight and Charges it neated 69/ per Hhd. on an average; that from Philadelphia, and Baltimore, was not so well liked, and only neated 64/9 per Hhd: Good Wheat 26/ per Barrel of 2½ Ct. Wt. Prime James River Wrapper Tobacco 14*d* to 14½*d* per lb. Duty 10*d;* Pot Ashes 28/ per Ct. for first Quality. Our Revenue Officers seize vessels on the slightest appearances. you will do well to warn all Captains of your acquaintance coming

this way, against selling any goods on the Coast or they will be seized as the Revenue Cruisers have a very sharp look out. We remain very respectfully, Sir, Your Obedient Servants,

Bryan and Willcocks

P. S. The dutch Flaxseed failing, this year will cause a great demand for yours.

Thompson and Gordon to Christopher Champlin

Newry, 14th July, 1786.

Sir,

We wrote to you last Season respecting flaxseed and your other exports, to which received no reply, yet expect the present wont be unacceptable. all the flaxseed that arrived here last year sold and averaged about £4. a hhd. of which our house sold above three thousand hhds. shoud you adventure next season hence, be assured of our attention to your Interest.

Ashes and Oil as last quoted, and we advise your dennaging only with Barrell Staves, all other kinds of Lumber being, overdone here, of Linens plain and printed, Cotton and Linen mixed Corderoys, flannells, and other kinds of coarse Woolens with Sail Cloth, you can have cheaper here than in En[gland] and situated so contiguous to Liverpool can ship Salt and C[ ] thence at a mere trifling extra expence, all of these goods, we shall ship to the estimated amount of any Consignments you may make our house, by return of the vessell without waiting sales, or on arrival of such, shall advance Bills on London for half value and on event of Sales, remaining half. Flaxseed is an article that generally proves a good remittance. by your ordering insurance thro us, it may be saved, by arrival of the property before such gets to hand. if you prefer a freight to loading on your own account, tis very likely we can get one of passengers and servants to some part of the Continent. We remain truly, Your Obedient Servants,

Thompson and Gordon

Silas Talbot[1] to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, 21st July, 1786.

Sir,

Messrs. Hews and Anthony called on me this day and made a demand of seventy Guineas on your account. I told them you must be very much mistaken and that I did not at any rate stand indebted to you in so large a some. Theirfore request you will recollect your agrement with me and give them orders accordingly. When I left Providence in consequence of a vile and wicked persecution and which was as unprovoked as it was cruel and malitious, I desird a friend of mine to pay you the mony at the time it should become due and I was not a little supprised to find by your letter this day that it was not dun, as I lodged the money with him for that purpose. I have wrote to him by this post and if you do not receive it in a fiew days plese to forward me a letter and the money shall be paid imediately say *twenty guineas* to your order. I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

Silas Talbot

Bartholomew Horace Burges to Christopher Champlin

Ipswich, 5th August, 1786.

Gentlemen,

Recommended by Lord Clive to the Court of Directors in London for an Establishment in the Honorable East India Company's Service abroad I went in the *Northington* to Fort William in Bengall, and remain'd in the Country 7 or 8 years in which time I acquir'd a Fortune of 70,000 pound Sterling. but my Fortunes fluctuating (without entering into any further Minutia) after having been at the Reduction of Pondicherry[2] on the Coast of Coromandel I return'd to Europe in the *Valentine*, and what I had was

[1] Silas Talbot (1751–1813), well known for his long and capable service in the American Navy. Towards the end of the War for Independence, he became involved in litigation over some prizes, and removed to Philadelphia.

[2] In 1778.

lost in her on the Sark Rock in the Channel of England coming home, etc., etc., etc., and at present here I am; but finding the Country destitute of Cash and no Trade or opening for an Enterprising Genius and willing to try my luck in India again, and hearing that your Folks had left your Ship in Bengall, and that She had returned with Lascares to America I determined on writing to you on the occasion to know Gentlemen from you whether you will give me a Station on board your [ship] to India again.

I can speak the Indostan Language as well as English and work a Ship in the Lascar Tongue. Can likewise Write Read and Speak the French currently having learnt it from Professors, and by a long residence in the Country have acquir'd a Local and Competent knowledge of India in general being acquainted both on the Mallabar Coast and the Bay of Bengall and been at most of the Settlements from the River Sinde down to Tillecherry and Ceylon and up to the Northward again to Chellagan, etc., etc.

Should you think then I might be useful to you in your present undertaking, favor me with a Line by the Return of the Post and I will regulate my self accordingly having the pleasure to Remain Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Servant,

B. H. Burges

P. S. Brought up to the Sea and having commanded Ships exclusive of his having learnt regularly Navigation, it may be presumd Mr. Burges is capable of a Station in an Indiaman.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 20th August, [1786.]

Sir,

I now am to acknowledge receipt of your sundry favors of the 10th and 17th April and 29th May, the latter only came to hand a few days past. their respective contents have made due not of.

I refer you to my letter this date to self and Mr. Samuel Fowler and Son handing Sales of the Flaxseed consigned me per the Ship *Hope* Captain Gyles for your one half Neat proceeds being £1611.6. 1½ you have Credit in the inclosed Account Current which is Ballanced by my remittance to Messrs. Protheroe and Claxton of Bristol, on examining whereof I hope it will be found free from Error and entered accordingly in your Books. Your bill to Captain Pierce was duly honored.

I shall have no Objection to honor your bills for three or four hundred pounds Sterling at 40 days sight, on giving me orders to make insurance on the Flaxseed you intended to ship here. We have an insurance Company with a Capital of above *One hundred and twenty thousand pounds Sterling* who has manner of insurance on the like terms of the Royal Exchange insurance Co. in London and have made it for several Houses in America this spring and winter at 3¼ to 3½ per Ct. on American Ships without passes. It is usual to charge 1/2 per Ct. Common on effecting the insurances, as in London and Policies cost only 5/6*d* Irish in the Winter I really think there is very little risk of the Algerines, but its said there are many Renegadoes now in their Vessels of all Countries, so that for the small additional premium, its more adviseable to be covered against those Pirates. when there is Bills drawn on Europe for Property consigned it's usual to accompany them with Bills of ladeing that in case of loss the Acceptor may be enabled to recover the loss. in my joint letter you'l find a price current. the article of Bark if attended to will be a considerable object, having lately sold America Bark at £5 and it now would fetch £5.10 /or £6, so much is it liked, but it must be well dried and the outer rhind paired off. the consumption of Potashes is considerable in this place, but of Pearl ashes not near so much. I have a very large Parcel of white Pearls on hand, and little demanded. I am with the Greatest Respect and Esteem, Sir, Your most humble Servant

EDWARD FORBES

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 20th August, 1786.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to refer you to my last respects of the 19th April. Since none of your esteemed favors.

Having got Sales from the Country of some Flaxseed sent there to sell, annexed you have Sales of that consigned me per the *Hope* Captain Gyles. Neat proceeds £3222.12.3 the half of which being £1611.6.1½ is placed at the Credit of your respective accounts. youl see these Sales are reduced by the Robbery of an unfortunate man who had bought 25 of them. The Statute has been taken out against him, but I do not think he will pay a Shilling in the pound whatever is received your respective Accounts shall receive Credit for the same. by accounts from the Country there is a most plentiful crop of all sorts of Grain, as well as of Flax and the Growers of it I am informed has not been able to save any of the seed, so that I make no doubt this article will turn out well the ensuing spring. referring you to the inclosed price current, I remain most Respectfully, Gent, Your most humble Servant, Edward Forbes

Certificate

I do hereby certify to all whom it may Concern that the Gross Amount of the Ship *Hydra's* Cargo, from London in the Kingdom of Great Britain to Bengal and shipt by William Robertson Esqr. of the said City, on the apparent account of Christopher Champlin Esqr. of Newport in the State of Rhode Island in North America, under a Consignment to Mr. William Green as Super Cargo, is Twenty one Thousand, Two hundred and Eighty six Pounds one shilling and seven pence half penny Sterling Money of Great Britain. Witness my hand in the State aforesaid this 23d day of August 1786. William Green [1]

[1] From an account of disbursements on account of the *Hydra*, June–August, 1786, some interesting items may be drawn. Import duties on the cargo were paid at

Sailing Orders

Having chartered the Brigantine *Betsey* whereof you are present Master at the Island of St. Eustatius to proceed in case I should think it fitting to this Port and from hence to any Port or Ports in Europe, if I should deem it inexpedient to discharge her here, and whereas I have determined that she should proceed on with the Cargo she has now on board to Ostend in Flanders, you are therefore with the first fair Wind to proceed with the said Brigantine from this Port to that at Ostend aforesaid. But having resolved for the better Security of the Cargo, and for the discharge thereof to its due Consignment, to put on board Mr. William Greene at this place as Super-Cargo, you are to take care in all things so long as the said William Greene shall remain on board in that Quality to obey him in all things, but more particular upon your arrival at the said Port of Ostend, and untill your final delivery of the Cargo.

Upon your Arrival in the Downs you will please to write your Owner Mr William Robertson of London to acquaint him thereof, and take a Pilot on board to take charge of the Brigantine untill she shall safely be moored at her destined Port, where you are to wait on the house of Messrs. William Herries, George Keith and Co., where Mr. William Robertson will lodge directions for your farther proceedings.

Chris. Champlin

Newport, Rhode Island, 23rd of August, 1786.

I acknowledge the foregoing to be a Copy of my Instructions receivd from Christopher [Champlin] Esquire.

John Adamson

Newport to the amount of £330.17.7, but the nature of the cargo was not stated. In addition duties of £11.18 were paid on pepper, arrack and shrub, valued at £474; and on salt petre of £187.10.0, which was reexported. Payment was made in the paper medium of the state, which then bore a discount of three for one. Fifteen "China seamen" were paid wages at the rate of 25/ sterling a month, and the boatswain received wages of £4 sterling a month.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 2 September, 1786.

Gent,

Above you have copy of what I had the Pleasure to write you the 20th ulto. it is with much Satisfaction I have now the pleasure to inform you that I have received advice from several Parts of the Kingdom and from my country friends that your flaxseed grew exceedingly well and in many Parts better than the Dutch and in general full as well so that I have no doubt of the American Seed being in as great demand here next Spring as ever it was known and I hope it will command as good a price as the Dutch which since the Peace sold on an Average from 20/ to 30/ per hhd higher. I am, Gent. Your most humble Servant

Edward Forbes

[Endorsed] Per *Happy Return*, via Providence.

Joseph Russell, Junior, to Christopher Champlin

Boston, September 17th, 1786.

Sir,

I received your Favour of the 11th Instant, am happy to hear your Goods came to hand in good order the several Letters which you inclosed I will forward per first opportunity. I have seen Captain Smith he tells me Captain Peirce had not arived at St. Petersburg, but had passed Elsenore before he came down,[1] therefore you have no Letters. your Arrack I think will not sell here, the Pepper will fetch 1/10 per li. by the Quantity. the Impost is only 2½ per Cent. this Price can be obtained redely for the Quantity you mention. do you mean Perce should come to this Town with his hemp and Duck? the Cash might be had for the Hemp and Duck, if I knew that she would come I would prevent several of

[1] A letter from Russell, dated October 2 states: "Captain Hodge tells us he [Peirce] was to sail in a day or two for Copenhagen, where he intended waiting for the India sales."

the Rope makers from purchasing elsewhare. Please to give me a Line and let me know if you shall want any seed at 6/ per Bushell. I am with due regard your assured Friend and Very Humble Servant

JOSEPH RUSSELL, JUN.

SHIPPED, in good Order and well-conditioned, by MURRAY, MUMFORD & BOWEN, in and upon the good *Sloop* called the *Peggy* whereof is Master for the preſent Voyage now riding at Anchor in the Harbour of *New-York*, and bound for *New Port*.

To ſay,

Eleven Tierces & five bbls Ship bread, Four bbls Flour, & One Chest Bohea Tea

Being marked and numbered as per Margin, and are to be delivered in the like good Order and well-conditioned at the aforeſaid Port of *New Port* (the Danger of the Seas only excepted) unto *Christr Champlin Esqr* or to *his* Aſſigns, he or they paying Freight for ſaid Goods with Primage and Average accuſtomed. In Witneſs whereof the ſaid Maſter has ſigned *two* Bills of Lading of the ſame Tenor and Date, one of which *two* Bills being accompliſhed the other *one* to ſtand Void.

Dated in *New York 15 Sept 1786* and in the Year of our INDEPENDENCE the *Eleventh*

Robert Lawton

DEBAUQUE BROTHERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dunkirk, 5 October, 1786.

Sir:

FROM a confidence in the recommandation of our particular friend Mr. Francis Rotch we take the liberty to apprise you of our intention to send our large ship called

Le Dauphin under the command of Cap. William Haydon from this port to St. Ubes, there to load salt and from thence to proceed to Rhode Island, where on her safe arrival we desire to commit the cargo to your care to be sold to the best advantage and to request your assistance to Cap. Haydon in all such objects of his expedition as he may stand in need of. we shall give to said Captain our most particular directions in all things relating to the present undertaking amoung which will be to give you the earliest intelligence of his progress in the voyage before his arrival if possible, in order that you may be able to make such preparations for his reception and dispatch as the necessity of the voyage may require. This ship being destined for the Fishery in the greenland seas and wanting much preparation for that purpose, we have been induced to follow the advice of our friend before mentioned to send her to America as the least expensive mode of compleating what is wanted, and we rely much on the judgment and exertion of capt. Haydon with your kind assistance to effect in proper season every thing necessary for her intended expedition that may be wanted in America. we must therefore beg leave to refer you to the foot of this letter for an enumaration of the articles we may want, to be engaged only on condition of the safe arrival of the ship with you.

Our house is a long established in Dunkirk and we trust your and our Friend Mr. Rotch will satisfy you that you are perfectly safe in whatever you may do for us in the reparation and outfit of *Le Dauphin.*

We shall also add a price current of sundry articles the produce of America at our market, that if you or your friends should see a prospect of advantage in any consignments by return of our ship that you may have an opportunity of benefitting by it. We shall be happy on all occasions to render your Service and are, Sir, Your obedient and most humble Servants,

BROTHERS DEBAUQUE

Tobacco 3 to 3½*s* per Pound
Rice 15 to 16/ per Hundred. } sterling Money.
Potash 17 to 19/ per do.

2000 feet of three inch Oak plank for doubling the Ship under her wales.
50 thousand good white oak staves of all sorts chiefly hogshead, and large staves thick.
50 barrels, best connecticut Pork.
20 thousand feet cedar boat boards.
timbers and kiels for 20 boats.
2 Whale boats built in the best manner.
20 thousand inch pine boards half eastern and half other kinds.
5 thousand hogshead hoops in bundles.
50 Barrels Cyder of the best quality.
small spars assorted.
50 Setts of best ash whale boat oars.
100 hoop Poles.
10000 feet of best white oak plank from 2½ to three inches.
200 Bushels indian Corn.
100 bbls. tar } if to be had cheap.
100 bbls. petch }

Agreement with Captain Jeremiah Clarke

Whereas Captain Jeremiah Clarke having agreed to command the Ship *Hydra* on a Voyage from Newport to Ostend in Flanders and from thence to the India Seas — It is therefore understood and agreed too, that shoud any unforseeen Event take place after said Ships Arrival at Ostend or before whereby she does not proceed to India as intended, and the Agent at Ostend shoud discharge the Captain Officers, and Seamen from any further Service on board said Ship and not make Provision for employing them in any other Vessel for India in that case its understood that Captain Clarke shall be paid his full Wages up to the day of discharge with the addition of One hundred pounds Sterling as a Compensation for his Expences and return home without any further Claim upon said Ship or the Owner of her.

It is also understood that Edward Dillingham Chief Mate of said Ship shall be paid his Wages that may be due to the day of his discharge at Ostend, or account for what may be overpaid, with the addition of Thirty Pounds Sterling as a Compensation for his Expences to return home etc. without any further Claim upon said Ship or her Owners. It is likewise understood that all the other officers and Seamen

belonging to said Ship of every description shall be paid their Wages at Ostend to the day of their discharge with an addition of three Months Wages to each of them as a Compensation for their Expences to return home without having any further Claim upon said Ship or her Owners.

Its further understood that neither the officers or the Seamen shall be entitled to any of the aforementiond Gratuitys provided they quit the Service of said Ship at Ostend out of their own free will or Choice, or refuse to proceed in said Ship to India or some other Vessell that may be appointed for that Service to sail from Ostend under the Command of said Captain Clarke.

It is furthermore agreed that Captain Clarke shall receive over and above his Wages four Shillings and Sixpence Sterling money per day during the Ships being in the Port of Ostend, to support his Pocket Expences.

And its finally understood and agreed too that the Owners or Agents of said Ship shall not charge Captain Clarke or his Mate any Freight for whatever they have shipped on board the *Hydra*, to all which Christopher Champlin in behalf of the Owners or Agents for said Ship at Ostend, promises on his part shall be complyed with, and Captain Jeremiah Clarke on his part agrees to comply with and promises to carry into execution as far as lays in his power as respecting said Ship, all the aforesaid agreement of which, In Testimony each of us has at Newport Rhode Island this 6th day of October 1786. have affixed our hands,

CHRIS : CHAMPLIN
JER'H CLARK

N. B. Its also understood that the Conditions upon which Captain Clarke is to perform the Voyage from Ostend to India in the *Hydra*, or any other Vessell appointed for that purpose, are to be settled between him and William Greene Esqr. before his departure from Ostend.

CHRIS CHAMPLIN
JER'H CLARK

DeBauque Brothers to Christopher Champlin

Dunkerque, 9 8ber, 1786.

Sir:

We have the honour to forward the inclosed our letter of the 5th Inst. since having received advices from St. Ubes that Salt was very scarce there, we have determined to fitt out the *Dauphin* directly to your port, and have loaded on board of her the following goods according to the annexed bill of Loading:

1500 pounds clean Hemp.
25,000 do. second sort.
24,200 do. Iron by assortiment.
3,000 do. or there about Cordages.

of which goods, all insured, we beg the favour of your utmost care for the best disposal: the proceeds of which you'll be so kind as to apply to the repairs of our vessell and cargo back. We have the honour to be, Sir: Your most obedient Servants,

Brothers DeBauque

Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 9th October, 1786.

Dear Sir,

My Friends Messrs. DeBauques of this Town having bought the Ship *United States*, that was Mrs. Hayley's, and meaning to repair her in order to go into the Greenland Fishery, I have advised them to send her to America for that purpose. They have given the Command of her to Captain William Haydon and at my recommendation she goes to your address. You will receive from them a small quantity of Hemp and Iron which is to be sold and the proceeds applied to the repairs and Cargo back. If it should not be sufficient, or if Captain Haydon should be short of money, either your or his draft on Messes. DeBauques frères here made payable in Paris you may be sure will be

punctually paid. The Exchange between London and Paris is almost as much above par in Paris as 'tis in America or at least from 5 to 6 per Cent and sometimes more just as the fluctuations are. If a premium of 8 per cent can be obtained by drawing on them payable in London there will be no objection to it in that way. the time it will take for the Bills to come here, to be accepted and sent back to London is but one week in the ordinary course of Post, it will not be worth their while to pay in London at a less premium. I mention this for your government knowing you like to have all matters of business made clear. The article of Hemp has risen in London to the enormous price of £35 Sterling per ton and is still rising. The exportation from Russia has failed in quantity five thousand tons this year so that Hemp must inevitably be very high till the next years exportation. I know not from what cause this has happened but I understand the fact is so.

In regard to the repairing and fitting the ship for her intended purpose Captain Haydon I believe is well acquainted with the usual method in such cases and his activity I have no doubt will be shewn in a manner adequate to the occasion. The time allowed him to stay abroad is very short and should you find a difficulty in providing a return Cargo of Lumber in season for him to leave America by the middle of January it will not do for him to wait for it. If by any unforeseen accident we should be deprived of the services of Captain Haydon I must recommend it to you to give the earliest notice of it to my Brother William Rotch at Nantucket if he should arrive safe otherwise to his sons or to the former Captain of this Ship Benjamin Hussey requesting them to provide a suitable Captain and men for the Fishery if possible in time to save the season for Greenland. should any accident happen to the ship of consequence enough to make an application to the Underwriters you will be so good to have the vouchers well arranged authenticated and sent by two conveyances to Messrs. Alexander and Benjamin Champion New Lloyds London who are the Agents of my Friends Messrs.

DeBauques and who have done the Insurance on Ship and Cargo to the amount of £3500, say £2500 on Ship and £1000 on Cargo in the office of the London Assurance Company. these Gentlemen or rather this Company are rather particular in respect to vouchers either for an average or loss. I mention this only as a trait of their Character well knowing it is not necessary to be mentioned to you in any other light. Captain Haydon's time after his arrival at Rhodeisland will most likely be much taken up in seeking and collecting such men as will best answer his purpose. the burthen of the repairs, etc. I fear will fall heavier upon you from this cause than it otherwise would do. I would recommend as the first step to heave the ship out as soon as possible to examine her bottom and if necessary nail the Sheathing over again and to get her upon her legs again as soon as can be in order for the doubling and other strengthnings to go on. this I fear will be the most difficult part of the business, it being absolutely necessary she should be kept afloat and by no means suffered to touch the ground upon her side. I have no doubt that every possible care will be taken according to circumstances. I shall have the pleasure of writing to you again soon. in the mean time, I am Dear Sir, with my best Compliments to Mrs. Champlin the young Ladies and Gentleman your Sincere Friend and obedient Servant,

F. Rotch

I have put on board Captain Haydon 12 Westphalia Hams and 20 doz. of Burgundy which I wish may be divided into four parts one of which I beg you to keep, two to be sent to Mrs. Jeffrey without her knowing of their coming from me and the other at the disposal of Captain Haydon. pray write to Messrs. DeBauques frères here by all opportunities advising them of the progress from time to time you make with the Ship and inclose any Letter you may have for me to them.

Lane Son and Fraser to Christopher Champlin

London, the 16 October, 1786.

Sir,

Your favor of the 28th July is before us, note the contents and are sorry to find the Legislature of your State had pass'd a Law which would infallibly hurt the credit of it. it was a wise measure in you in preventing your Goods from being sent to Newport whilst the Paper Money was circulating. in the mean time we thank you for your kind promise of sending us a Remittance by way of Ireland and remain Respectfully, Sir, Your most humble Servants

Lane Son and Fraser

William Green to Christopher Champlin

Dear Sir,

I shall not detain your patience with any dull detail of the length and nature of my passage here. It was lucky I came, my affairs requiring very much my presence to keep them in order. What think you of a public sale here, of a part of the goods I sent home in a schooner from St. Eustatia having taken place, so very irregular and unprofitably, as, tho all bear the same comparative value, some of them were sold at a loss of Twenty per Cent, while others retain a profit of Forty on the first price. By the first price I must be supposed to mean the Calcutta price, without any Charge of freight or Insurance etc.

I am hourly impatient for the arrival of the *Hydra*, the season for her outfit approaches fast. I am not yet however absolutely bent on sending her, in case a plan of association for the Voyage, with some others, which I have now upon the tapis does not take place.

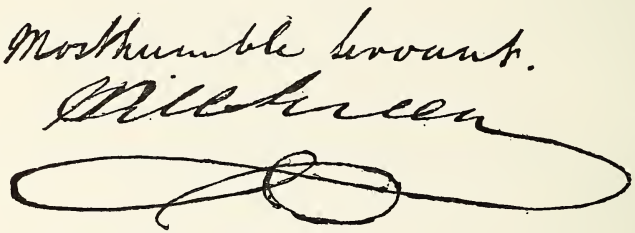
I have since paid my Compliments to all my friends in London, and have since brought some of them here to render the time light and easy while I am away from my family.

Pray make my Compliments to your good Lady, and my charming Cousins, and I beg you will make a thousand

efforts to remit as much as possible to Mr. Wilkinson early in the spring. I am much prest to accomplish my engagements and rely on your doing every thing in your power to assist me.

I mean to write you again soon. I cannot be particular just now, but as the South West winds prevail much at this Season and the packets are sometimes detained here a fortnight, I send this off, that it may be certain of reaching you by the November packet.

Continue to believe me always faithfully yours,



Ostend, the 19th October, '86.

Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

London, 1st November, 1786.

Dear Sir,

My last Letter to you was dated the 10th of last month by Captain Wm. Haydon in *Le Dauphin* who sailed the day after from Dunkirk Roads for Rhode island to your address with a small parcel of Hemp and some Iron and a few Currants. My friends at Dunkirk have at my recommendation sent this Ship to you to be doubled and otherwise prepared for an expedition to Greenland. Should Captain Haydon not arrive no notice is to be taken or provision made on this account, if he comes to you safe he is possessed of all necessary instructions for the purpose, which aided by your kind assistance I have not the smallest doubt will fully answer the expectations of his Owners. dispatch is the most essential point to be aimed at, and to gain this point I am sure no time will be lost or exertion be wanting.

Hemp has risen very much here, the price is not less than £36 Stg per Ton and is still rising.

I must beg the favor of you to forward the inclosed Letters, one to my Brother at Nantucket and the other to Captain Haydon wherever he may be, if he should not arrive safe pray return it to me here. there is nothing new here except a Commercial treaty with France, which will not take place before it comes under the consideration of Parliament. I hope it may lead to a treaty with America but I see no ground for such a hope in the disposition of the present Administration of this Country. I beg Mrs. Champlin's and the young Ladies to accept my best Compliments and you to believe me your sincere friend and obedient Servant,

F. Rotch

John Collier to Samuel Fowler and Son

November the 2d, 1786.

Gentlemen,

You together with Mr. Christopher Champlin, I give my Respects to, and am to acquaint you, Gentlemen, that I have been lately made many Offers for my Flaxseed, but as Gratitude always obliges every thinking person to be sacred to their Word the same Obligation takes hold of me Gentlemen towards you, and therefore am willing to let you know that I have been offer'd Seven Shilling and Six pence Sterling deliver'd at my House from the Liver Pool Vessel that went up the River for Providence the last Week past, and also have been offerd Seven and Six pence from Captain Sheffield who trades from Connecticutt to New Yorke. [Ho]wever Gentlemen you will let me know the most you will give taking the Seed at my House and makeing prompt payment therefor the Bearer Mr. Nathan Tucker will receive your Answer for me. Which is all from, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient and Humble Servant

John Collier

Harrison G. Otis and Thomas English to Christopher Champlin

Boston, November 8, 1786.

Sir,

I PRESUME upon my acquaintance with you to request your attention to a power of attorny forwarded you herewith. The Circumstances which give Rise to it are the following: Mr. Geoghegan charter'd a vessell, the Sloop *Friendship*, belonging to Ebenezer Smith of Taunton; she was to be subject to Geoghegan's orders, and saild for the West Indies, Geoghegan and Smith being on Board. Smith contrary to Geoghegan's Command carried the Vessell into Eustatia, and afterwards ran away with her and Cargo leaving the Freighter on Shore, who has not yet been able to detect the Villain. Should he put in to Newport or Providence I shall place much dependence on your kind attention to employ some Gentleman of the law, (Mr. Channing is mention'd) and to have him arrested, and his Vessell detaind, untill you can give me Intelligence, at which time you shall be furnish'd with all the Documents and powers relative to the transaction. The Cargo is valuable, to the amount of £500 or £600, besides the Damages and Expences undergone in pursuing the fugitive. The Lawyer you employ may think proper to commence an action for "mony had and receiv'd," merely to detain him untill further and more precise measures may be adopted. I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient Servant HARRISON G. OTIS

You will please to keep the matter, as much within your own Breast [as] possible. Perhaps an Application to the naval Officer might ensure success.

Sir,

THRO' the Introduction of Mr. Otis (in the absence of Lowell,) I take the liberty to request your friendly attention to the inclos'd Power of Attorney. Shou'd Smith or his Vessell fall in your way I shall immediately forward you full Powers and every necessary paper relative to this trans-

action, in the Interim remain with Compliments to your Son and Daughter, Your most obedient Servant

THO. ENGLISH

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dear Sir:

I HAVE very little to add to my Letter by the October packet, except the expression of my wishes for your health and happiness and that the good Citizens of Rhode Island may have come to a sense of their interest which they were murdering at so cruel a rate when I left you.

I must press you for a remittance to Mr. Wilkinson in the spring in order to support effectually my Credit. I hope my goods will come to a good sale in particular the Chintzes, as Cottons since the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty with France have risen *in the white* Fifty per Cent., the coarsest white Manchester Cottons which formerly sold, and indeed sold four months since at 13½*d* per yard, having risen to 20*d*. Cotton is at four shillings the pound.

I beg my Compliments to Christo., and the Ladies and am, Dear Sir, Yours most faithfully

WILL GREEN

London, 17 November, '86.

JOSEPH RUSSELL, JUNIOR, TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Boston, November 26th, 1786.

Sir,

I RECEIVED your Favour of the 23d Instant. give you Joye on the arival of Captain Peirce, hope he has made you a good Voyage. the Muslins and Hyson Tea are not yet sold. they complain of the formers being to great a Price and the latter I do not think is of so good a Quality as is now selling in Boston, but hope to get the Tea of some how or other the Muslins I wish your Direction respecting, Mrs. Jones has not taken any — *Mr. Jones* think them too *extravigant* for the *times*. Please to give my best respects to your amiable Family in which Mrs. Russell joins and likewise that good

Mrs. Green comes in for my good wishes and believe me to be with Sentiments of Esteem your assured Friend and Very Humble Servant Jos. Russell. Jun.

Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

London, 6 December, 1786.

Dear Sir,

I hope *Le Dauphin* Captain Haydon belonging to my Friends Messrs. DeBauques is 'ere this safe arrived with you and that she will meet with every possible dispatch back again. My Friends have requested me to communicate to you and Captain Haydon whatever may occur to me as being benefitial to their Interest, but I know of nothing material which has not been written by them or me by Captain Haydon and since by the November packet. I fear his passage has been long. two ships bound to Halifax and Newfoundland have been obliged to return to England after being at sea 10 and 11 weeks without being able to gain their passage and a ship is also lately arrived from Philadelphia in 25 days, other ships have been obliged to lay too with strong westerly winds in coming this way. these accounts alarm me not only for *Le Dauphin*, but for my Brother William Rotch and his son who left England on the 14th of October in the *Penelope* Captain Mores for Boston and I am much afraid must have had a distressing passage. I shall be glad to hear any account of these ships from you.

I am sorry to find things in America proceeding so rapidly to a state of Confusion, whatever may be the event I hope my Friends may be among the least sufferers. Pray give my Complements to Captain Haydon and inform him I have received Mr. Vignerons money of Mrs. Williams at Dunkirk which I beg of him to account with Mr. Vigneron for. the sum I think was 58 Crowns but my papers being at Dunkirk I am not sure, both Captain Haydon and Mr. Vigneron know. I shall be obliged to you to forward the inclosed to my Brother at Nantucket. . . .

Your sincere friend and obedient Servant,

F. Rotch

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dear Sir,

I HAVE received your Favor dated the 14 of November, and give its contents every needful attention;

What Mr. Jennings says requires great allowances, nor shall I even pay the smallest attention to the sense of that House, where their Interest is concerned when it militates with my own Judgement.

You will think my demurring against Newport as a Depot for any sort of Merchandize, extreemly natural, so long as by our present Laws, the late paper emission shall continue to be a legal tender in payment of Debts, or discharge of obligations of any kind. However I will give your Proposition due attention in the mean time. At present I have thought it is true, of withdrawing part of my Goods from St. Eustatias to Wilmington on the Delaware, which is a free port and consigning a small parcel for sale to Philadelphia, and I beg you will lodge there for me under cover to Mr. Thomas Fitzsimons an exact account of my Sales, and remains as far down as you have made any, and let me know the probabilities conserning your Sales of the remainder, and if there is any Chance of having Newport made a free Port.

I dont think the Prices you mention for Bandannas, any encouragement for Importation, as at the East-India Company's Sales in December, they sold of a similar quality for Thirty Shillings;

I beg my Compliments and Regards to Mrs. C. and my young Friends, and desire you be persuaded of the Regard and Esteem of, Dear Sir, Your most Humble Servant.

W. GREEN

London, 24 January, 1787.

P. S. I would have you sell the Hyson if you can get 6/6 sterling per pound.

WILLIAM AND JNO. P. JONES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir,

YOUR favour of the 18th we have before us and in reply thereto just observe that as our William Jones has very latly been both at N. York and Boston we are sufficiently acquainted with the state of Hemp and know the quantity at Market as well as the *demand* for it, and you may rest assured Sir that we can yet obtain it at £45 and under; but calculating the difference of freight etc. it will bring yours to £46 per ton almost which is our ultimate and we will furnish you what melasses we have at 17*d* taking the amount in Hemp now and for the ballance of what Hemp you mention particularly as you urge the falling of the Melasses we should chuse it might remain at our Option when we take the Hemp either to pay you in Melasses at 16*d* or the Cash. probably we may make up sufficient for two tons now and the other by the time you mention we beg you will be kind enough to let us know by the first conveyance if you agree to these terms as we shall purchase other ways if we do not contract with you. We are Sir very respectfully Your Humble Servants

WILLIAM AND JNO. P. JONES

Providence, January 24th, 1787.

NATHANIEL RUSSELL TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, 12th February, 1787.

Sir,

I REC'D your favor of the 28th December and am sorry to tell you I have not received one shilling from Stitts or General Greene's Estates this year, the former has sent about 60 barrels of Rice to market but not any of it has come into my hands. the person who has the Administration of that Estate in his hands has been a long time sick. it was for some time expected he would die, but am informed he is getting better. if he had died I should have again taken the Administration and would have immediately sold the Negroes and not subjected myself to any further disappoint-

ment. I am in expectation of receiving a payment and when I do I will remit your Brothers proportion of it. I cannot give you any information with respect to General Greene's Estate her Brother is in Georgia but do not know what he is doing. I do not learn that any part of the Debts have been paid nor what they mean to do with the Estate. I am very Respectfully, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

NATH'L RUSSELL

DEBAUQUE BROTHERS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dunkirk, 27 February, 1787.

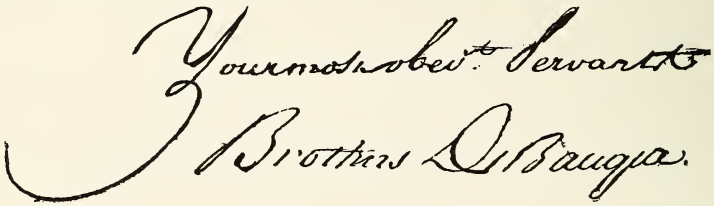
Sir:

YOUR very esteemed of the 30 Xber last came us to hand on the 18. Inst. by which we see the arrival of the Ship *Le Dauphin*, in a very wrecked condition by a tedious passage and continual gales of wind which hurted the vessell in all points. We hope that you shall have been soo kind as to have the necessary protests dressed to make the Insurance Compagny liable to pay if it happen to be the case: we further observe what you are pleased to mention concerning the prices of hemp and Iron. as the first article has extraordinary advanced in Russia and in London being now at 38 lb. Ster. per ton, we hope that the prices shall equally increase at your market and that you shall be able to render pleasant accounts.

Having considered the state of *Le Dauphin* you describe, and your further observations, we think it more adviseable to request you to forego all the expenses of doubling and preparing the Ship for Greenland but to repair her as much as may be necessary of her damage particularly if it was received by the breaking in of the Sea upon her or in any extraordinary way so as to make the Insurance Compagny liable to pay otherwise the most Economy must be used in every kind of repair; when they are finished captain Haydon must proceed to the most convenient port, and load the Ship with all kind of staves particularly of that kind which are the cheapest and return as soon as possible to Dunkirk.

we hope that the proceeds of the Iron and hemp shall be sufficient to pay the repairs and procure the necessary quantity of Staves.

You'll be so obliging as to keep us exactly advised of every deviation that may take place from the old project by any new arrangement in order to keep up the validity of the Insurance with the Compagny. We are respectfully, Sir:



Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

London, 1st March, 1787.

Dear Sir,

I have received your Letter giving an Account of the arrival of Captain Haydon and the awkward circumstances the Ship is in. The Object of his expedition so far as relates to the Voyage to Greenland this Season being defeated; it will require consideration how far it will be proper to proceed upon the original Instructions given to Captain Haydon and you.

I have recommended it to my Friends Messrs. DeBauques, to forego all the intended preparations for Greenland for the present; and you will receive their Directions to this purpose: but all other Repairs necessary to put the ship in a proper State to return may go on, and when compleated, I know it will be their wish and directions for you to provide no other part of the Cargo already order'd, but such articles as shall be decidedly cheap with you, but that the ship may not return empty, Captain Haydon will receive Orders to proceed to the best port for White Oak Staves, there to fill up with all kinds of this article, giving a preference to that sort which are cheapest; provided there is not too great an inferiority in the Quality: should the consideration of what

port may be best direct your Attention to Virginia, it is possible to guard against a Disappointment in some Degree by taking on board Tobacco on Freight for the Farmers General in France; which may be an Object not unworthy your attention. I do not mean positively to direct it but to leave it at your Discretion and the Captains only requesting in a very particular manner that whatever port the ship proceeds to or whatever Deviation may take place from the original Instructions may be made known to my Friends Messrs. DeBauques at Dunkirk and Messrs. Alexander and Benjamin Champion in London in order that everything may be perfectly understood by the Company of Insurers on this Ship in proper Season. I have met with an Accident which deprives me at present of the [use of m]y right Hand in writing. a Friend is so obliging as to write this for me to which I shall subscribe and very truly, Dear Sir, Your sincere Friend and obedient Servant,

F. Rotch

Pray inform Capt. Haydon I have received his Letter and approve much of his consulting with my Brother in all such matters as are not attended to in this Letter.

[Endorsed,] Per *Mary*, Capt. Barnard.

DeBauque Brothers to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 6th March, 1787.

Above Copy of what we had the honour to write you the 27th past forwarded by the ship *Mary* Captain Barnard bound from London to Boston; we have nothing to add, but to desire you to be soo kind as to employ all means if necessary to procure to the ship *Dauphin* a freight of tobacco for Europe on account of the french Farmers and in the event of success, or what ever deviation may take place from the original instruction we may directly be informed of it in order that every thing should perfectly be understood by the Company of Insurers on said ship in proper Season: we

have the Honour to be, Gentlemen, Your most obedient Servants,

BROTHERS DEBAUQUE

[Endorsed,] London 8 March 1787, received and forwarded by, Sir, Your most obedient Servant, ALEX. CHAMPION Jun.

HEWES AND ANTHONY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Philadelphia, 9th, March 1787.

Dear Sir,

YOUR favor of the 28th ultimo came safe to hand, with the Arrack and Schrub agreable to Invoice. we lament you did not consult us before you ship'd them, because we think we never shall be able to dispose of them for a price that will give Satisfaction, or near it, and we are unhappy when we receive such a consignment. Old Cogniac Brandy (of which we have plenty and cheap) makes such an excellent substitute, they seldom make use of Arrack. We know a quantity of the best kind, in Casks of 20 Gallons each, that has been two years in this City, which the Gentleman offers at 12/6, and can get no offer. and the Schrub is never made use of, when fruit can be got, which in time of Peace is plenty enough. therefore upon the best information we can get, you will be under the necessity of ordering them back or to some more promising Market.

Inclos'd you have Invoice of the Flour and wine, both which we think excellent. we give you a price current, and remain your Obedient Humble Servants,

J. HEWES AND ANTHONY

BROTHERS DEBAUQUE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dunkirk, 20 March, 1787.

Gentlemen:

WE beg leave to refer to our precedent Letters dated the 27th past and 6th instant: we have only to add that in case the proceeds of the goods ship'd per the *Dauphin* should balance her repairs, our intentions are always that you

should be soo kind as to fill her up with hhds. and pipes staves at the cheapest price possible to draw the amount of your advances on us paiable in London : in case her whole cargo can be procured in such kind of staves as mentionned, the greatest share in hhds. sort and at low rate, we think it more convenient to load her entirely for our account than to take any freight, to which success, several deviations to the original policy should be indispensable : we rely on all your care and hope that you shall favour us with your exact advises, that we may timely be informed of your further transactions. We have the honour to be, Gentlemen : Your most obedient Servants

BROTHERS DEBAUQUE

NATHANIEL RUSSELL TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, 5th April, 1787.

Sir,

ENCLOSED you have Invoice and bill Lading of 25 bbl. Rice on board the Sloop *Rainbow* John Bissell Master for Newport on Account of Capt. Robt. Champlin amounting to £106.10.9 which is £50 more than I have rec'd on his Account. General Greene's Estate has not paid a shilling nor I do not know when it will and I have only received 70 Barrels of Rice from Stitts Estate out of £2600 Stlg. The Legislature have passed a Law obliging Debtors to pay their Debts by three installments, the first third part in March '88 the next in March '89 the remainder in March '90, and at the same time prohibited the importation of Negroes for three years. I am very apprehensive your Brother will not get any thing more this Crop, but should I unexpectedly receive any thing further I will remit by first opportunity. I am with Respect, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

NATH'L RUSSELL

Your Rice is marked W No. 25 to 49.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 5th April, 1787.

Gentlemen,

I BEG leave to refer you to my last of the 27th February per Ship to Philadelphia under covers of Messrs. Hews and Anthony adviseing of the progress I had then made in the sale of your Flaxseed, since which received your favour of the 24th January with Bill Lading for 200 Hhds and 6 barels F[lax] Seed per the *Fame* Captain Sheffield who arrived here safe the 8th ulto. Altho you observe I have a larger quantity of seed addressed me this season yet it has been my good fortune to have disposed of more than any other House here, and had I had treble the quantity I could have sold them with equal facility, and no more remains in my warehouses than about 160 Hhds and 96 of them belongs to your Neighbour Mr. Handy remainder yours and other friends so that you need not fear of any of yours remaining over year, as I am certain from my country connexions I need never fear of having any left on my hands. If I sell as others do as I can command a prefference from many good Country Customers provided the seed is good, and I could have sold every grain I have yesterday if I had taken 3£, the price others were selling at, but held off selling in hopes of geting £3.2.6, but the arrival last night of a Brig from London with 650 Hhds will now oblige me to sell for 60*s* and I have reason to expect a Vessel from Hudson (formerly Cleverack) a port in the north river. Upon the arrival of Captain Sheffield I proposed to Mr. Norris to send her to Londonderry but the accounts he had from thence did not incourage him to agree with me in sending her there. however I thought it for your Interest to ship 125 Hhds of yours to Sligo a port that has usually been supplied from Derry and hope it will do well. have also at Drogheda 195½ Hhds. when the sale begins there, which will be next week, I shall go there to sell it among my Customers there and its vicinity where I hope it will do as well as here. if it should not, as I have

done it purely for your Interest I hope you'l not censure me as it is your good I have in view. By the unfortunate accident which happened to the *Hope* there were 85 Hhds much wet. however upon opening them and separateing the wet from the dry there were 63 of dry seed and the twenty two filled 25½ Hhds which I sold at 42*s* per Cask payable in 4 Months to one of our Oil Mills. Indeed what seed I have sold is payable 3 and 4 Months and it went at £3. to £3.5 per Hhd as by our Policys F[lax] Seed pays no averige under 5 per Ct. I did not therefore sell the damaged at auction as is usualy done, but took with it the method I have mentioned by so doing I served you, or the underwriters if you are insured. I had the 85 Casks survey'd by Captain Rathbone and Mr. Norris that in case of need they can certifie it. the Protest Captain Gyles carries with him. there would not have been any [of] your Seed unsold, had it been as well cleaned as what I had from Providence, or what Captain Handy brought, which the Country people run upon in prefference: this circumstance should induce you to be exceedingly careful to have the Flaxseed well cleaned nor did yours look so bright, and upon enquiry I find the reason is, that you fann your Seed before you run it through the Bolt which is very rong, as the Fann should be the last operation. to this I request your attention. it is the method they practice in Newyork and it is the cleanest that comes here. I remain most respectfully, Gentlemen, Your Most Humble Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

P. S. Captain Gyles delivered a barrel more then was in his bill ladeing.

My advices from Newry today is they continue selling there at 60/ and at Derry their Sales have not yet commenced they however arrived there 10,400 Hhds which is 1000 Hhds more then their annual sales tho have no doubt they will sell all as I am certain the Country will sow more this year by 4 or 5000 Hhds then they did the last.

April 12th. All the Seed I had here is sold and on Satur-

day I go for to spend a few days in the Vicinity of Droghed when I shall attend to the sale of hats there. I am truely yours

E. Forbes

[Endorsed,] Per the *Happy Return* Captain Iring.

Hewes and Anthony to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, 9th April, 1787.

Dear Sir,

Your esteemed favors of the 19th and 24th ultimo are to hand. when our People begin to drink Punch, we will try what can be done with the Arrack and Schrub, as yet we have no Encouragement.

We have been with Mr. Morris respecting the ship. he will agree to load her with Tobacco, on the same Terms, he has taken up several others, vizt. 36 Livers per hhd Freight, and one Liver per hhd to the Captain in lieu of Primage. he has a large quantity of Tobacco ready in Virginnia and has no doubt of giving her immediate dispatch, tho he will not subject himself to pay Demurage, and you must allow thirty working days for the delivery of the Tobacco in France. if you conclude to send the ship, Mr. M. wishes to have the earliest Notice, and you must instruct the Captain to call on Messrs. Harrison Nicolls & Co. at Portsmouth; for orders. it is probable she will load there. this being the needful we conclude Your Obedient Servants

Hewes and Anthony

Lanchon Frères et Ce. to Christopher Champlin

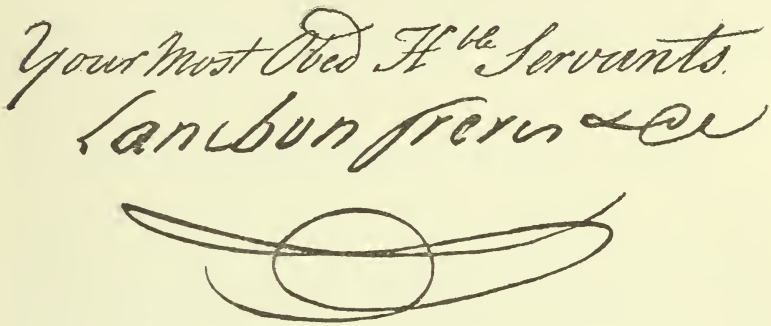
L'Orient, 25th April, 1787.

Sir,

On the 20th December last we had the honor of addressing you by Circular in giving you the prices of our Market, which have varied but little since that time, except in the Articles of Teas and peper that have rais'd about 10 per Ct. the first of them, owing to one of the Company's Ships having missed last Year her Voyage to China, which will cause a

less Quantity to arive this. And there has also arived less peper this year in Europe than was expected.

Although we have since the above none of your esteem'd Letters, we will not let any Opportunity escape us whereby we can recall ourselves to your remembrance, and repeat that we are ever devoted to your and your friends Commands. In expectation of them we remain with distinguished Sentiments of regard and respectfully, Sir,



P. S. Should Captain Rathbone Commander of the Ship *Mary*, owned by George Gibbs Esqr. of your port, stay's a day or two longer we shall furnish you with fresh prices current.

William Willcocks to Christopher Champlin

Cork, 28th April, 1787.

Sir,

I refer you to the Circular letter of my late Partnership, adviseing its dissolution, am about forming another, and my Son is to be one of the House, which he justly merits, from his long experience and attention, when finally agreed on, you shall be informed. in the interim I do business under my present firm, and will be extremely thankful for the favor of your Commands, which shall be attended to with all diligence. good Barrel Staves are worth £7 per M. a Cargo arrived to my late firm yesterday from Philadelphia, for which I expect that price. the same Vessel brought in about 40 Tuns of Pitch, Tar and turpentine, which will be tedious

in the sale. Flaxseed 58 to 60/ per hhd. first quality Pot-Ashes 30/ per Ct. Virginia Tobacco 13½ to 15*d* per lb. Deer skins about 15*d*, in little demand, and Oak Timber 60 to 70/ per Tun, slow sale. I am respectfully, Sir, Your humble Servant

WILL: WILLCOCKS

When I was in Dublin the begining of last Month, I had the pleasure of meeting Captain Sheffield, Captain Rathbone and other Gentlemen from your Neighborhood, at my good friend Mr. Edward Forbes'.

MOSES M. HAYS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Boston, April 30th, 1787.

Sir,

YOUR favor of the 26th lays now before me. I have communicated its contents to the underwriters, who would sign a Policy were it now before them at 6 per cent. for the risque you mentioned on the Brig *Elizabeth*, and not under, and if nothing happens to alter their opinion, by the time I may here from you again the Premium will I suppose be the same, tho' underwriters never hold themselves bound to write at any certain Premium unless the Policy is immediately filled up. I feel much for your situation, respecting publick matters. Perhaps they may mend soon; We have no Paper money underwriters. No Business is done at the Treasury occasioned by the death of our late Treasurer.[1] a new one is appointed, and Business will soon take place, when I shall be able to tell you, how your Interest on Consolidated notes can be obtained, I am with respect Your Hble Servant,

M. M. HAYS

[1] Thomas Ivers was Treasurer of the Commonwealth in 1787 and Alexander Hodgdon in 1787–88.

Brothers DeBauque to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 8 May, 1787.

Gentlemen:

We are favoured with your esteemed of 10th March, since our last respects of the 20th do. to which we refer: we are sorry to observe the bad state of your Market for our hemp and iron, that it had not been in your power to command any Money for either; the Prices in Russia and through the whole Baltic are soo greatly advanced for the Hemp, that we have a great expectation to hear from you soon in much better terms. we desire the favour to clear that shipment with all speed:

We have honoured your Draft for £120 St. and it shall timely be paid, the amount carried to your debit.

We observe the Carpenters were to begin the Repair of the *Dauphin*. we shall be glad to receive your further advises concerning her situation and the Period you esteem the ship shall be ready to return: we are well persuaded that you shall care our interests as your own and we rely entirely on you for all the Particulars concerning that Matter. we are respectfully, Gentlemen: Your most obedient Servants,

Brothers DeBauque

Edward Forbes to Samuel Fowler and Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 15 May, 1787.

Gentlemen,

To close a most unfortunate Concern in the Brig *Fame*, Aaron Sheffield, Master, (formerly the *Queen of France*) inclosed you have my Power of Attorney to dispose of my one fourth of her on arrival after discharging her Cargo from Copenhagen at Rhode Island, and in Conjunction with the other Owners in Rhode Island namely Mr. Welcome Arnold, Coll Samuel Ward and Samuel Vernon Junior, finally to settle all accounts with Captain Sheffield, and you'll be pleased to concur with the said Gentlemen in sending the

vessell to discharge at Providence or for sale there should they desire it, as I would wish her to be disposed of to the best advantage for the Benefit of all concernd. hitherto we have been unlucky in the Plans that have been pursued, and my not agreeing with them in the voyage they had proposed for her to Copenhagen has made the Business very unpleasant indeed, as you'll see by the inclosed Protest, the Copy of my letter to Mr. Ryberg, and the note sent Captain Sheffield from Drogheda in reply to a letter he wrote me to that Place. you'll also please to receive from the other ¾ Owners my Quarter of the Vessells freight from hence to Copenhagen, and thence to Rhode Island, which they must pay as they sent the vessell on said voyage without my Approbation. I askd Captain Sheffield what he thought it would be worth, who told me £6 Eng per ton for Hemp and in proportion for Iron, and the Gentlemen with you wrote me they thought she would carry 72 tons Hemp and about 25 or 30 of Iron. however this Matter may be easily settled by two intelligent and indifferent Persons to be chosen by you and them, wishing for what is fair and just only, and all Matters settled in an amicable Manner if its possible. You'll likewise be pleased to adjust and settle with Captain Sheffield my account for the cost of the Ship, he not having furnished me with the Particulars thereof untill his arrival here this Voyage, having only given me the amount lump'd in the Account Current he furnished me, of which you have Copy herewith, together with the Account he produced me this Voyage from Messrs. Mason and Malbone. my reason with troubling you therewith is, that Mr. Arnold wrote me his reason for breaking with him for a vessell that he and Coll Ward had agreed for, was that he paid for the half of the *Fame* in dry Goods, and indeed Mr. Vernon in a letter I had lately from him informs me he thought she might have been purchased for £250 less had she been paid for in Cash, and I do presume this is agreable to the Practice with you as well as throughout all America, if it is so its but fair, that as my ¼ was drawn for in favor of his London correspondents, that I should be allowed a

proportionable Part of what Profit he had on the dry Goods he gave Messrs. Mason and Malbone in Payment. I spoke to him on this Subject, and all the Satisfaction he gave me was that the Vessell would not have been purchased for less had the Money been paid for her, but into this I must request you'll be so good to enquire, and if Mr. Arnold and Mr. Vernon are right you'll please to oblige Captain Sheffield to make me a proper Allowance for the same, the Persons from whom she was bought would be proper to enquire of and Coll Ward.

By the inclosed Copy of my Letter to Messrs. Arnold, Ward and Vernon you'll perceive the footing Captain Sheffield and I parted upon, the Morning of the day of the Protest being made say the 20th April, I told Captain Sheffield in presence of the Notary I would go to Drogheda that Evening, and requested he would determine where he would go to with the Vessell. his Answer was he would consult some Persons. the next day the 21st he protested against me for going out of town and not leaving any Letters for him, tho' the same day he wrote me to Drogheda that I should return as soon as possible that he might take the Opinion of two Persons where he should proceed to. his Behaviour to me obliged me to write him the Note I did from Drogheda, and on my Return to Dublin I told him I could have no Conversation with him but in Presence of a third Person, but he never afterwards came to speak to me, and sail'd without letting me know where he would proceed to which I afterwards found out was to Copenhagen, as you'll see by my Letter to Mr. N. Ryberg; sorry and concerned I am to have Occasion to trouble you on so very disagreeable a Business, but as I would do the same and more to serve you, I hope you'll act in this Affair for me as if it was your own, which will truly oblige, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

Edward Forbes

I will send you next Opportunity the Copy of my letter to the other Owners if I have not time to do it now, to whom

I have wrote that Captain Sheffield being purchased out I should hold my Concern in her with them, which you'll please to observe, for really Captain Sheffields Conduct has been such that it gives me pain to be forced to be explicit, and have no more Connection in ships with him, hopeing he will be more fortunate in his future Pursuits.

Edward Forbes to Welcome Arnold, Samuel Ward and Samuel Vernon, Junior

Dublin, 15 May, 1787.

Gentlemen,

I REFER you to the Letter I wrote you the 2nd Ulto. with Copy of one of same date which I then intended to have sent per the *Fame* to Mr. Ryberg of Copenhagen, but did not, having, a few days previous to the Wind coming fair for either Captain Handy or Captain Sheffield to depart for that Place, received Information that Hemp was scarce at St. Petersburgh and advanced in Price, so that there was no Prospect of making a Freight for the Ship if she loaded this article for Dublin for Owners account, as was proposed by Captain Sheffield and mentioned to you in my said Letter, but on the contrary had the Appearance of leaving a loss to the concerned and the great Improbability from the same cause of being able to procure a freight for the Ship for any Port in Europe, determined me not to concur in sending her on the said proposed plan to St. Petersburgh from Copenhagen, provided Mr. Ryberg should not have loaded her. there were Letters from London to Captain Handy as well as to Captain Sheffield also informing of the Scarcity of Hemp at Copenhagen, and even if any could be got there it would be at such a high price as must have left a loss at Rhode Island, which with the Circumstance of Captain Sheffields informing me that he would not have wherewithal to pay for so much goods as would load his Part of the vessell, made me use all the influence I could to persuade him from proceeding to Copenhagen, and strongly recommending his proceeding to L'Orient to load Salt for

Newport. In consequence of his and my disagreeing on this point I entered the Protest which I now send to Messrs. Samuel Fowler and Christopher Champlin, to the former of whom Mr. Vernon in a Letter I lately received from him recommended my sending a Power of Attorney in order that an End may be put to this unfortunate Concern, which I now more than ever see the Necessity of doing, and have accordingly empower'd said friends to dispose of my Share of her and concur with you if you desire it in letting the Vessell be sent to Providence, either to sell or discharge, and the sooner the better, as I am resolved to be no longer connected with Captain Sheffield, whose Conduct I before informed you I was perfectly dissatisfied with, and his recent Behaviour obliged me to communicate to him my Sentiments very freely, as you'll see by the Copies of a letter I received from him at Drogheda and my Note to him in reply. you'll also see by the Copy of my letter 25th ulto. to Mr. Ryberg, that he left this without acquainting me where he intended to proceed with the vessell. Mr. Vernon in his Letter to me very properly notices the loss of a Cable and Anchor, the Circumstance of their being stole is rather extraordinary as they were not of so light Carriage. the Charge of Coll. Wards Expences at Virginia he has given me Credit for, as well as for a short Credit in Exchange, which when I formerly complained of he absolutely refus'd to allow me for, and likewise obliged me to give him Credit for the one half of 750 Bushells of Salt at $\frac{2}{3}$ amount £84.7.6, stopt from him by Mr. Arnold for Breach of Contract made by Coll. Ward and Captain Sheffield for a vessell they had bargained with him for, and upon my telling him this Voyage that I could only be liable for a fourth of this Sum we left it to a refference, which was given against me by the Refferees, before whom and in the Presence of Captain Handy Junior, he made use of the most improper Language respecting Mr. Arnolds conduct, and declared that tho' he had exonerated both Coll Ward and himself from their Agreement yet he retained the amount of the Salt from him. I askd him to give me a letter to Mr. Arnold on this subject, that if it

was a fact that he releas'd him from said agreement I might apply to have the half of the above Sum of £84.7.6 repaid me by that Gentleman. he did accordingly write the draft of a letter and told me he would make a fair Copy and leave it with me, but did not; on the said Subject have only to remark that from the high Character Captain Sheffield (on asking me to be concerned in a vessell) gave me of Mr. Arnold and Coll Ward, made me conclude they and him in Conjunction would have purchased a vessell on the cheapest and best Terms from the mutual Benefit of all concerned, but I find from Captain Sheffields Language he has changed his opinion of Mr. Arnold, tho' its probable his Vindication of himself on the Occasion made him say what he afterwards was sorry for, however be this as it may, I must unless Mr. Arnold considers me, be a further Loser of £42.3.9 in addition to the other large Sums lost by the Imprudence of Captain Sheffield, who seems to me determined (let his Owners sink or swim) to make all the Money he can out of them, and what evinces this is his attempt to make them pay his Son 2nd Mates Wages, a boy that had not been a Month from School, and was only fit to be put an Apprentice. his other Apprentice he makes act as chief Mate, which from his Youth and inexperience is very improper, and am surprized you allowd it. his wages should be but small. on looking into his Account of Overcharges you sent me he has given me Credit for my Part of them, except those Charges for Expences in Virginia Cove and St. Eustatius amounting to £15.2.4½ which he absolutely refus'd saying he would have a Refference with you on the same at his Return, when I trust and hope you'll oblige him to settle all accounts in a fair and proper Manner, and act with Messrs. Fowler and Champlin for my ¼ Ballance, my Part should be deducted as he charged me Commission on every Transaction at each place; the Staves sent to Waterford remain unsold, would not bring more there than here from their indifferent Quality and plenty at Market. herein is the Ships disbursements and the Freight account, if possible you shall have the Sales of flaxseed.

Mr. Reuben Harvey of Cork a few days ago wrote me that the Solicitor of the Revenue had applied to him for Payment for £100 the amount of the Bill of Costs for the Crowns Expences in the Condemnation of the *Fame* and Goods, for which amount he joined Captain Sheffield in a Bond. I wrote him in answer to petition the Commissioners of the Revenue setting forthe the Hardship of his being obliged to pay the same, when Captain Sheffield lost his all etc. and hope it will have a proper effect, tho' from what the Solicitor told me I believe it will be insisted on, if so I shall not have sufficient in my hands out of the Proceeds of the Staves to pay Mr. Harvey. the difficulty of course must be made good by all concerned. you will please settle for my ¼ of the vessells freight on Voyage to Copenhagen and Rhode Island with Messrs. Fowler and Champion, wishing for nothing more than is just and all matters be settled in an amicable manner; I can have no Objection to continue concernd with you in this vessell (provided Captain Sheffield is purchased out) if continued in Trade between this Place and yours or Providence, and as freight of Ashes are generally to be had there or to be purchased with red Oak Bark etc. on Owners account, she might make two Voyages in the year if we are active on both sides. it has given me great Concern that we should differ in Opinion about the Copenhagen Voyage which I dare say were you here you would disapprove of. I am Gentlemen Your most humble Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO BROTHERS DEBAUQUE

Newport, May 30, 1787.

Gentlemen,

I HAVE had the pleasure to receive several of your Favours and in particular that of March 20th. it gives me pleasure that the mode pursued in repairing the *Dauphin* is conformable to your request as the Greenland Voyage was at an end for the Season, and that the articles purchased for your a/c are such as will afford great profit and intirely useful

in the whale fishery. Inclosed you have account sales of your Hemp, Iron, Cordage and Currants net amount £1012.4.8 to your Credit also Invoice of sundry articles shiped per the *Dauphin* on your a/c amounting to £792.12.7. and likewise my account of expenditure for repairing the Ship and equiping her for her Voyage to Dunkirk including money advanced to Captain Haydon amounting to £1351.7.6 both sums to your Debit. my account current is also inclosed ballanced by sundry Draughts on you vizt.

1. in favour of Murray Mumford and Bowin	£120.-----
1. ditto fav. Benjamin Peirce	250.-----
1. ditto fav. Alexander Champion	100.-----
1. ditto fav. Prothero and Claxton	200.-----
1. ditto fav. Lane Son and Fraser	147.8.8---
Sterling	£817.8.8

which bills I flatter myself you will duly honour. the situation our public affairs are under and the Paper Currency emitted having operated much against commercial matters has rendered your business very difficult to negotiate. I am happy to have closed it without having any outstanding Debt at risk, and I flatter self to your satisfaction, as we have not deviated from your Policy of Insurance and Captain Haydon having his Protest and Survey of the Ship duly authenticated, I doubt not of your adjusting the Damages with the Underwriters amicably. Captain Haydon merits your thanks for his very great attention to your business throughout the whole equipment, and to him I beg leave to refer you for a number of Particulars. I am with Tenders of my future Service and Esteem, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

C. C.

[Memo.] Rough Copy of letter to Messrs. Brothers DeBauque at Dunkirk.

Brothers DeBauque to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 3 July, 1787.

Sir:

We received timely your esteemed favour of 16th april 24th and 30th may contents duely observed: the last handed by captain Wm. Haydon safe arrived after a short passage of 22 days; we have found inclosed the several documents of sales, repairs and Invoice of sundry articles shipped per the *Dauphin*, which after examination shall be written in conformity so as your account current balanced by your five drafts together £817.8.8 in order several which have meet with due acceptance; we say you much thanks for your great attention to our business, which we claim again as we intend to send back said Ship in about three weeks when we shall have the pleasure to write you more fully in the mean while we are with all regard, Sir: Your most obedient Servants

Brothers DeBauque

Anto. Fr. Thiringk to Benjamin Peirce

St. Petersburgh, 6th July, 1787.

Sir:

It was a particular pleasure to me, to be informed of your safe arrival at Copenhagen, wishing that your return home may be like successfull.

From Mr. Ryberg you'll have learned, that the Sailcloths and Ravenducks intended on board of your Ship, had been shipt of already, like I am buisy to do with the hemp, upon which I hope to be able to inlarge next post and I hope that both these Consignments will arrive in time so as to make a sutable Stowage for your Ship. But a pitty 'tis, that from our great distance, we are prevented of a regular Correspondence to America, which becomes a detriment to trade, like 'tis the present case that on the arrival of several ships from that part, the prices of the russ Goods have got up amazingly high, that of clean hemp advanced to Ro. 21 and is held at

present upon Ro. 22. which by all probability it will come to, as we are rather short of that article. the inferior sorts of hemp are rather more reasonable outschott Ro. 18½ to 19 and half clean Ro. 17½ to 18. Tallow has been driven up likewise very high and for the best candle Ro. 37. has been paid. Iron stands from 112 to 115 Co. the new Sable and 115 to 122 Co. the old Sable. The linnen manufactories have been greadily bought up of late, by which the price of Flems went up to Ro. 11½ to 12 and the Ravenducks from Ro. 7¼ to 7½ Drillings 18 Co. Sailcloths are the only ones that continue on their former rate from Ro. 7 to 10, according to Quality.

Both Capt. Simmons of the *Will'm and Henry*, as well as Capt. Benjamin Hodges of the *Active*, are safe arrived at this port and are loading for Salem. I expect also the *Hind* Capt. McComb, on board of whom I am orderd to ship a Cargo of Goods on account of Mr. William Gray Junior,[1] and being told by Capt. Simmons, that Mr. Gray addressing himself to my house, was to be attributed to your friendly recommendation in favour of the same, I thought it therefore incumbent upon me, to accept of the earliest opportunity, to return you my warmest thanks for this kind mark of friendship, assuring you at the same time, that I'll in particular exert my best Endeavours to do honour to your friendly recommendation and shall be happy in the opportunity of making you sutable returns.

I inclose within a List of our last years Exports by which you'll find all the articles specified that are to be had from hence, which may serve for your Govern and begging to be remembred to both Mr. Christo. Champlin and Mr. George Champlin as well as Messrs. Sam'l Fowler and Son I remain with the most perfect Regard, Sir: Your most obedient humble Servant,

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK

[1] Of Salem.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, 20th July, 1787.

Gents,

I wrote you last the 15th May relative my concern in the Brigantine *Fame* and to settle accounts with her Master Aaron Sheffield to which please be referr'd. Inclosed you have sales of F. Seed per the Ship *Hope* Nt. Proceeds £2455.17.9 the ½ being £1227.18.10½ is placed at the Credit your respective Accounts holding you accountable should any of the Outstanding debts prove bad. I have not yet received Sales of the 125 Hhds. f. seed sent to Sligo tho am in daily expectation of them but have as yet rec'd only 70£ in part of their proceeds. as soon as them sales come to hand you shall have the Account Sales of the 203 Hhds. per the *Fame* Capt. Sheffield. it gives me real concern these sales have not returned out so profitable to you as I could have wish'd tho every exertion on my part was made to render them on my part as advantageous as possible. Our crop of Grain promises well; from the accounts received from the country there will be no f:seed saved. The unsettled state of Holland does not promise that we shall have much seed from that country but the price of it here depends upon the Quantity imported from your Continent. Pot Ashes have advanced to 32 per Ct. Pearl Ashes 38/ to 40 per Ct. referring you to my letter to you and respectfully I remain Gent., Your most humble Servant,

Edw'd Forbes

[Endorsed,] Per the *Dublin Packett*, via Philadelphia.

Hewes and Anthony to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, 27th August, 1787.

Dear Sir,

We have labour'd in vain through the Summer to dispose of the Arrack and Schrub. Limes and Lemmons have been so plenty, that the latter will not sell at any price and the

former is so little made use of here that we have only been able to dispose of about 30 Gallons at a low price. the Casks are old and rather leakey; the hoops some times start, being rusty and rotten, that they often call our attention for fear of great and sudden Loss. we wish you could direct us what to do with them, for from the Tryal we have had they will not sell here. we remain affectionately, your Friends,

J. Hewes and Anthony

Certificate relating to the Paper Medium of this State

We the Underwritten Merchants and Traders of Newport and State of Rhode Island do hereby certify to Whom it may Concern that the late paper Emission of Money issued by this State hath depreciated in the proportion set against each Month, in which paper Money all Duties and Imposts of every kind of Imports either by Citizens or Foreigners is customarily paid at the specified values on the face of the bill altho depreciated vizt.

1786.	July	8*s* to 12*s* for 1 Spanish Milled Dollar.
	August	dull at 12. for 1 do.
	Sept.	3 Dollars for 1 do.
	Oct.	3 and 4 for 1 do.
	Nov.	4 and 5 for 1 do.
	Dec.	5 for 1 do.
1787.	January	5 and 6 for 1 do.
	February	6 for 1 do.
	March	
	April	
	May	
	June	6 and 7 for 1 do.
	July	
	Aug.	

No. B. Most Current at six for one of late supposed owing to the demand for a Tax just finishing the Collection.

Jno. L. Bass
Thos. Rowland
Jos'h Bass, Jun.

Brothers DeBauque to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 28th August, 1787.

Sir:

Since our last respects of the 3d past the destination of the *Dauphin* has been changed and she proceeded for the whale fishery at the Brazils coast under the command of Uriah Swain. Your very esteemed letter of the 14th July by the Dunkirk safe to harbour directed to F. Rotch esqr. has been handed to us by said friend who intends to sett off for America in very short days. he shall have the pleasure to satisfy him self upon your several demands and inform you fully of all articles which might be imported and exported from both places at mutual advantage. at the foot you shall find the price current of the tobacco, Rice, Molassis etc. for your regulation. We are Respectfully, Sir: Your most obedient Servant,

Brothers DeBauque

Tobacco from £33 to £45 [*i. e.* livres] per centum according to the quality.
Rice £21 per Centum.
Molasses £18 per Centum. Our Weight is almost the same as yours. we allow 17 per Ct. deduction upon the Tobacco, for the Cask, Nails, good weight etc. 13 per Ct. upon the Rice, 18 per Ct. upon Molasses. all charges Commission included does not exceed 8 per Ct. We shall write you per the *Hope* Captain Gyles, who intends to sail for Newport in about ten days.

Edward Forbes to Welcome Arnold, Samuel Ward and Samuel Vernon, Jr.

Dublin, 30 August, 1787.

Gentlemen,

I had the Pleasure to write you fully the 15 May per the *Brownlow* via New York who I find arrived safe. I am since favor'd with yours of the 21st June its Contents have made due Note of. You'll find the *Fame* Captain Sheffield in pursuance of your Orders proceeded to Copenhagen, and left that Place the 17th May for Newport where I hope she has long since arrived. am concerned to see by your letter that you were much disappointed as well as dissatisfied,

that I did not agree to load my ¼ of the *Fame* at Copenhagen with Hemp agreeable to the Plan you had laid down. however when you come to be informed that none could be procured and that the vessell was obliged to return without, you'll find my Information respecting that article was not premature as you alledge but too well founded, and cannot doubt upon reflection you will blame yourselves for having plann'd that Voyage, without leaving me at liberty in Concurrence with the Captain to have sent her upon some other; with Respect to what you say of the remoteness of my situation at the time you planned said Voyage, that it was out of your Power to consult me on her future Employment without loosing the Freight of flaxseed that then offer'd for Dublin, yet surely as she was to come here, it must have been supposd altho' so distant from America, that I was nearer at hand to procure the necessary Information of the price of Hemp at Copenhagen, and consequently be left to judge for the mutual benefit of the concerned whether the Voyage was eligable or likely to leave a profit, supposing Hemp to be generally sold with you at £42 Currency per ton, nor did you say this price was to be paid in Specie as your Letter will shew, besides with much defferance to your greater Experience, I conceive that I was to be intitled to an Option whether I would pursue such a Scheme or not, particularly when my Interest was so materially concerned. I do however find a Majority of Owners hath a Power to fix upon a Voyage, yet they are bound to make the dissenting Owner proper Recompence for his Share of the Vessells Freight, which you never propos'd to me in case that I did not choose for to load my part at Copenhagen, tho' am pleased to find by your last letter that in this Point you agree with me, as you say you expected I should be benefited my part of the Freight whether I was a shipper or not, and sincerely hope the Goods shipt by Mr. Ryberg for your accounts will make you a good Voyage; as I cannot doubt of your getting a freight of Seed for the *Fame* to this place if you should incline to do it, apprehend she would fetch a better price here than with you, as a Mediteranean Pass

could be procured for her if owned by Residents in consequence of her unfortunate Condemnation.

I have not been informed by Mr. Harvey if he has paid the Bond he was join'd in by Captain Sheffield, but suppose at November Courts it will be enforced, when the Sales of the Staves are made they will fall far short of paying Messrs. Arnold and Wards Part, as the deduction for the Deficiency in their flaxseed (which has fallen short half a bushell in each Cask) will be considerable, besides attended with heavy Expences of Affidavits and Measuring, and I must add such Practices are not only a Discredit to the Seller but also to your State, and greatly hurt its Reputation and makes it difficult to sell. If Complaints are made to our Linen Board a Law may be pass'd to confiscate such as may be found difficient of proper Measure, or else Officers will be appointed to measure it on arrival, which will be attended with a heavy Expence, therefore am to intreat that you will inform your friends, and desire them not to ship any flaxseed in future that hath not its full Compliment in each Cask, as well as being properly cleand, which was not the Case with what came here last Season, the New York Seed by its being so well cleand, Neatness of Casks and having good Measure has always commanded a prefferance in every Port in the Kingdom. Our Crop of Flax and Grain is good and plentifull, but do not learn there will be any of the Flaxseed saved, the price of which next Spring will depend upon the Quantity that may come to Market. I do not think we shall have any from Holland, at least it will be very little. Pot Ash 1st Quality 30/ to 32/, best white Pearl Ashes 38/ to 40/, Oils in plenty and poor prices. I am, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant

E. Forbes

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

Dublin, August 31st, 1787.

Gents,

Since my last respects of the 20th ulto. handing sales of your Flaxseed per the *Hope*, have not received any of your favors. Having at last received Sales of that shipt to Sligo, above you have the account Sales of what you shipt per the *Fame* Captain Sheffield, Neat proceeds £427.11.11 the ½ being £213.15.11½, is placed at your respective Credits, in Account Current. it gives me much concern that this adventure has turned out so very poorly, in shipping what I did, however for Sligo was done with the best intention for your Interest, and flatter myself you will view it in that light. it would certainly have neated you £3.10/ there but for the immense Quantity poured in from all parts of the Kingdom.

Your having suffered by this article should induce you to purchase it this Season with caution, I mean as to price, keeping in view that the Consumption of this Kingdom should be estimated at 32 m to 35.000 Hhds, allowing for what may miscarry for Losses at Sea in coming from America, last spring about 2400 Hhds were lost; and our prices are regulated by the Quantity that comes to Market, as it should yours by the Quantum of the Crops which I hear is very considerable with you. Our oil mills have given from 45/ to 50/ for such seed as they have hitherto purchased which I mention for your government. Mr. Norris told me he had several complaints of his seed not holding out the usual Measure of 7 bushells. I had also of some from Messrs. Arnold and Ward, whose casks were deficient ½ a bushel each and of course deductions and charges etc. is the consequence, besides the discredit to the Seller as well as to the province from whence it is imported. such very improper practices will I fear if continued cause our Legislature to pass severe laws — if not to confiscate, they will appoint Officers to measure it at importation, which will be adding

to the heavy expences already laid on it; I hope I shall have no complaints of any of yours. however let me intreat your attention in having what you ship *better* cleaned, a good Measure in each and the Cask made to a proper guage, such as are made at New York and providence. What I had from Mr. Handy and Messrs. Russels were the best cleaned brightest seed and neatest casks that came from your state. the casks are made to the New York size to which assure you our country people are often very attentive. you should discourage your Country Coopers from continuing to make their Casks so long as they do, and brand your Name on the head of the Cask with *Rhode Island.* The New Yorkers have so well supported their character in all these respects that their seed in general is preferred in every port in Ireland, and as I am persuaded what comes from your place and New England States to be equal if not prefferable, am convinced if its properly attended to in the beforementioned matters it will be as much sought after as any other; having often mentioned to you before these circumstances that you should be attentive thereto, excuse me for I have no view in it but your good and remain most respectfully, Gent., Your most humble Servant,

EDW'D FORBES

P. S. Capt. Sheffield inform'd me Mr. Ward and Arnold's seed was cleaned at Newport, so that in fact they are not to blame. Indeed it would be well done to have your friends inform'd of the necessity of putting good Measure into the Casks, and have it better cleaned and remember the Fann should be the last operation, of which circumstance you'll oblige me to communicate to Mrs. Cath. Easton and Mr. Handy, as I should to your Neighbour Mr. Gibbs were I in correspondance with him. I am perswaded he will take it kind in you to inform him about the Fann. It will make the seed look a great deal brighter which should be attended to as it is in N. York. The *Fame* Capt. Sheffield sail'd from Copenhagen for your place the 17th May, and hope she is long since arrived safe. have by this packet wrote

Messrs. Arnold, Ward and Vernon in answer to a letter of theirs dated 21st June. by next opportunity will send you the Copy. as she is a fast sailer hope these Gent have bought her in for their and my Account as a Medittareanen Pass could be procured for her if owned here. think she would sell as well if not better than at Newport. you no doubt received my letter of the 15th May via New York.

September 11th, 1787.

P. S. I do not send Copy of my Letter to Messrs. Arnold, Ward and Vernon. The only matter in theirs worth communicating is, That they write me "That they expected me to be benifited my part of the Freight whether I was a Shipper or not," which Sentiments corroborates the Opinion I've of those friends and no doubt they will pay you a reasonable freight for the Copenhagen Voyage. Most respectfully I remain Gent. your obedient Servant

EDW'D FORBES

[Endorsed,] Per the *Phenix*, via New London.

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dublin, 1st September, 1787.

Sir,

I HAD this pleasure the 3d Ulto advising you of Captain Pierces bill on me from Copenhagen for your account for £250 in part of your bill on me in his favor for £425 Brit: By the Ship *Hope* Capt. Gyles lately arriv'd at London I received your always esteem'd favor of the 7th July repeating your request that I would honor your bill before mentioned in favor of Captain Pierce, which I once more beg leave to inform you I should have done at the time of its presentation were it not that I was then under some heavy engagements and Advances for consignments from America which drained me of all my ready cash, the Credits given on its products being generally 4 and 6 Months and the sale often so tedious that its a considerable time frequently before the Money comes round. However tho it's even now exceedingly

inconvenient I have this post written to Mr. Ryberg if he shipt you goods per Capt. Pierce's Vessel for Amount of the remainder of said bill being £175 that I would honor his draft for the same, wishing thereby to convince you that I would strain a point to serve and oblige you, all in my power. I must however remark, it is not here as it is in London where the Bankers and monied men are glad of opportunitys to lend money on goods or other securities. here no Bankers will lend a shilling to any person in trade or otherwise. Undeniable good bills only at 60 days will they discount; from this circumstance together with the long Credits they get on dry goods the Merchants in London have it more effectually in their power to serve their friends than we in this kingdom can do, from the great scarcity of cash as well as the short credit obtained for our dry goods owing to the poverty of our Manufacturers, and tho I have wrote Mr. Ryberg I would honor the remainder of your bill yet I believe its very unusual for Merchants in America to ask their correspondents here to advance Money for them when they have no effects in their hands, and when you come to reflect also upon the Scarcity of Cash in this Kingdom and that people in trade can make double Interest upon their Capitals you will I am persuaded think it unreasonable to expect Money can be advanced to Persons so remote for bare Interest, in fact I always charge 2½ per Ct. Commission besides, where even by accident that I have been obliged to do the like as is the case at present with Messrs. Fowlers and Mr. Handy by reason of my having shipt them goods exceeding the value of their property put in my hands in estimating of which I find I overrated what they produced, nor do I make it a practice to do so in any case where I have not property in my hands and I have the vanity to say no person here hath done more for to serve their correspondants by my punctuality and attention to their concerns. You will please also to observe I am now in advance for Messrs. Fowler's sales and yours above £230 notwithstanding I remitted your London friends the sums you respectively desired even without waiting to be in cash

for the same, (which indeed them friends are general very pressing for and for which Messrs. Lane Son and Frazer returned me their thanks) exclusive of which you will find by the inclosed abstract of your Account Current that you are now indebted to me £70.10.6 without any charge being made for the Interest. It gives me much satisfaction to find the Linens shipt you by the *Hope* met with your approbation so much as that you say you will be induced to order larger Quantities next year, you may rest assured of my best attention to your Interest in all your commands and hope as opportunity offers to experience your kind influence with such of your acquaintances as may be sending consignments here. with the greatest truth and sincerity I remain, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

P. S. If Mr. Ryberg advanced the Amount of the beforementioned sum of £175 Stg. you'll of course not remit him but me referring you to my letter to your good self and Messrs. Fowlers and Son per packet with sales of your Flaxseed per *Fame*.

THOMPSON AND GORDON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Newry [Ireland], 9th September, 1787.

Sir

THE present serves to advise you that pot ashes have been demanded price 30/ per Ct. flaxseed sold *last Season* from 60/ to 65/ and tis now certain We shall require full as great a Supply ensuing one, as then, on sending any hence advise dinnaging [dunnaging] with Barrell Staves. we confirm that [on] arrival of such Consignments, we shall advance [in] full supposd value in our Manufactures by return of vessell without waiting Sale of $\frac{2}{3}$ by bill on London, remitting balance on event of Sale. our Linens are rather cheaper than last year. are respectfully Your Obedient Servants,

THOMPSON AND GORDON

Francis Rotch to Christopher Champlin

Dunkirk, 11th September, 1787.

Dear Sir,

I have received your several favors relating to the *Dauphin*, you must 'ere this reaches you be informed of her safe arrival after a short passage of 22 days. She is since sailed upon the Southern Fishery from this port. Your bills for the repairs of that ship have all been duly honored. I expected more premium in the Exchange, there being but the course of post which makes only one weeks difference of time on bills drawn on this place or London, which if payable in London, ought to fetch the highest premium.

My friends have written to you occasionally. to their advices respecting the markets here, I beg leave to refer you, being with great esteem, Dear Sir, Your sincere friend and obedient Servant,

F. Rotch

I beg your care of the inclosed to my Brothers house at Nantucket.

[Endorsed,] Per the *Hope*, Captain Giles.

Anto. Fr. Thiringk to Christopher Champlin

St. Petersburgh, 1st October, 1787.

Sir:

Having been favourd with a Letter of worthy Capt. Ben Peirce from Copenhagen in date the 9th August last, by which this friend desired of me, to be inform'd of the State of our market for russ products, I accept of this opportunity to pay you my respects at the same time, and flatter myself you'll be pleased with my Advices concerning matters of trade, that you may be the better ineabled to take your direction accordingly next season.

Our this years prices for russ products, have been driven up extravagantly high and still continues that of clean hemp upon Ro. 25. Outshott hemp Ro. 21. half clean hemp Ro.

19. and hemp codilla Ro. 9 to 10 per Berq't Tallow from Ro. 40 to 41, and notwithstanding the season is pasd thus far, nevertheless there is all likelyhood that the Stock remaining upon the spot will be exported intirely, the same being but of little consequence.

The like case is it with the russ Linnen manufactories, particularly the Flems and Ravenducks that have been greadily bought up, the former at Ro. 12, and the latter from Ro. $7\frac{1}{4}$ to Ro. $7\frac{1}{2}$ per piece Drillings 18 Cop. per Arschin, our Market has been swept likewise of 15000. pieces Sail cloths that were bought by order of Goverment and by this prices have advanc'd about a half ruble per piece.

Regarding our contracting business for the insuing Season, the same will be much influenced by the affairs in Holland that has such a dangerous appearance but of late and t[h]reatened a rupture to all Europe, but tydings being come in by the last mail, that by the assistance of the King of Prussia, the Stadholder had been reinstated and installd again, there are great hopes that matters will remain quiet and easy on that score, and as to the war with the Turks, that has been declared, but of late 'tis thought that the two imperial powers only will have their hands therein. In case matters remain in this Situation one should think that the prices of naval Stores must undergo a decline and as far as there is to be judged of present appearance, my opinion is that clean hemp may be contracted at about Nineteen Rubles per Berqowitz all the money advanced before hands and the hemp deliverable in June and July next, in proportion of which, the price of Cordage may run from 220. to 230. Copecks per pud duty comprehended. But Tallow and of course the like Candles 'tis thought to continue dear in price for some time to come, as the very dry weather in one part and the heavy rains in others, that have had this season, have destroyed the Grass, by which the Cattles have suffer'd very much, like we fall short of corn throughout this Impire, the price of which is run up to a hight never experienced before. For these very reason the prices of Iron may maintain also, as the works in the mines have been stopd

for want of sufficiency of water, the present rates run from 112. to 125. Co. per pud according to quality and as to the russ Linnens, I do not suppose that their prices will lower, particularly as a great deal of Flems and Ravenducks is wanted for the Army, which on the present occasion is much augmenting.

My only wish being to become of service to your good selves and to incourage your trade as much as possible I beg leave to observe further, that as you lay so near to the West Indies, your Ships could be imployd that way during the winter to fetch from thence those Goods sutable for this markett, which I am told to be made practicable and by which not only a duble freight may be gaind, but this trade become lucrative to you in some other respects, as this meight form a direct Importation, when hitherto all West Indigo Goods are come hither by a second hand.

The most properest articles from thence sutable at this market, are St. Domingo Sugars of a bright and white grain that's substancial, also small blew beamd Coffee and best St. Domingo Indigo, which sells readily here and I would have no objections to make you direct returns for the same in russ products. Cochineal of a darkisch colour is likewise an important article imported hither and some boards of Mahogany wood would do likewise for a tryall. Rice is also made use of here and about twenty Casks on board of a Ship would do at a time. from the bay of Hunduras [Hudson] we are used to get furrs by the way of London, such as beavers, wolves and sable skins or small fox skins. if you have a chance of getting at them, they may sell likewise and on your having once tryd these articles, a scheme could be laid for increasing these branches, as any Goods which you are able to give in return for your wants of russ products, must be more to your Interest, than the providing of Cash. But on the first occasion I would not advice you to extend the value of your Consignment to more than four to five thousand Pounds Sterling and even that to consist of a variety of the articles mentioned, till you experience the success thereof, and whatever Goods

you destine for this place, I must recommand in particular, that they may be of the very best sorts in their respective kind, as our people are very nice and wont touch at any indifferent ones.

I hope this detail will be agreeable to you, to which I add the List of our this years exports for America, by which you'll find in what manner trade to your parts is increasing. I have said already and beg leave to repeat, that it will be a particular satisfaction to me to become of service to you and the trade to your country, to which I am the more apt from the capacity I am in and being a subject to this Empire I enjoy all the prerogatives and priviledges of a Native, which Ill gladly make my friends partake of, to forward their interest as much as there lays in my power. our mutual good friend Mr. Ryberg at Copenhagen will confirm this to you, and on your writing me by the packetts over London, I should be glad if you would inclose your letters by Messrs. John Wm. Anderson and Comp'y at that place, which is likewise a capital house and may become of service to you. like I should be glad to know before hands, what kind of Goods you'll stand in need of next season, that preparations may be made for the same, which is chiefly the case when cordage and tallow candles are wanted. Recommanding myself to your favours and friendship I remain with the most perfect regard, Sir: Your most obedient humble Servant

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK

Amsterdam 37*s*. London 39*d*.

FRÖLICH AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

[Copenhagen,] the 6th of October, 1787.

Sir,

WE crave your reference to what our Mr. Frölich did himself the Honor to write per Captain Pierce and have now the pleasure to wait on you with the annexed Circular requesting at the same time a renewal of our former Connections, which by our facultys we are able to maintain, your

Wh Champlin Esq^r Copenhagen the 1st of October 1787
Newport.

SIR

The partnership between me and Mr. EMANUEL BOZENHARD *under the Firm of* J. J. FRÖLICH & Comp. *became dissolved the 30th of Aprill last Year, since which the Affairs of said Establishment are so far arranged, that I am now enabled to take the Liquidation upon myself and settle thesame under my private Signature.*

Being thus in Capacity to continue the Business of my House, which during the last seventeen Months have been carried on in Succession by Messrs FALKNER & MEYER.; *I beg leave to acquaint You, that I have formed a Partnership with said friends which from this day begins under the Firm of* FRÖLICH & Comp.

We intend chiefly to confine ourselves in executing Commissions and shall jointly enforce our zeal for the Interest of our Employers, which on every Occasion shall be handled with the strictest Honour and Integrety.

Please to take Notice of our respective Signatures as at foot. Recommending my House to Your favors and friendship I remain with the most perfect Consideration.

SIR

Your most obedient humble Servant

J. J. Frölich
Frölich & Co.

Who will subscribe in future.

Frölich & Meyer

Signature of Your obt hle Servt
EMANUEL FALKNER.

Signature of Your obt hle Servt
J. R. MEYER.

Frölich & Comp.

P. T. B.

Interest with that Ardour as any other House here. Notwithstanding our prior partner mentioned to you that the Sale for the Teas here upon the Spot would not be held till next Spring; yet the same has since been published to take place the 17th Instant, but it is still probable that the Vendue may be put of till next Year, as the Troubles in Holland are now come to their utmost Crises and unless decided by that time, no Auction will be held of said Article this Season. We expect another Vessell from China dayly, but dread some Accident has happened to her, which detains her in some port or other. Hemp and Sail Cloth maintains their prices in Petersburg and as a declaration of War is issued by the Turks against the Russians, there is very little prospect that the prices will be lower in the course of next year, particularly Hemp we have reason to believe will advance, as the Theater of War will be near the Ukraine, from whence the greatest part is brought down to Petersburg. Should you resolve to have any of those articles next year we request your timely orders, that our friend may watch the best Opportunity to provide what may be wanted.

We remain respectfully, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants

FRÖLICH & Co.

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER

Dublin, 22d October, 1787.

Gentlemen,

BY this conveyance who is still detain'd, I had the pleasure of writing Messrs. Samuel Fowler and Son in reply to a letter I had lately from them and the greater part relateing to my unfortunate concern in the *Fame*, take leave to refer you thereto with the inclosures. This day I received via Cork your esteem'd favor of the 12th September, of its contents have made due note. Am satisfied with your having confirmd the Sale of my Share of that Vessel tho' sold for so

small a price, sincerely hopeing Captain Sheffield and his new Connections may be more fortunate then his late Owners were. Better had it been for me to have presented him with 600 Guineas the day I first saw him and have had nothing further to say to him, for exclusive of the Loss should have been saved an immensity of pleague and trouble for which have had only ungratefull returns from him.

Observe the settlement you have made of the Vessels freight for the Copenhagen Voyage, whereby you have paid £21.17.3½ for my ¼ of the Portige bill and am to receive only £9.0.11 Sterling for my Share of the freight, without takeing notice of my Part of her Outfitt from hence for that Place. consequently am a considerable looser. From this mode of settlement the custom in the like case under simular circumstances would have been done in a different manner here; as I am inform'd I should have been if settled in this place awarded, if not full freight for my Fourth at least have had that much of what freight she should have made as if the other Owners had actually laden the ¾ of the Vessel — for this reason, that she was sent on the Voyage contrary to my approbation (as my protest with you will shew) the other owners having done so with a View of loading her on their own Accounts (and not to look for a freight as none could be expected there), with an article that one of them the Master was well informd before he proceeded could not be procured, and if it was, he declared he had not wherewithall to pay for his own. Neither did the other Owners send sufficient funds to load their respective parts, which in such a Case they *ought to have provided for.* their not doing so would here subject them to pay the dissenting Owners part of what they were bound to have laden in her. But I presume you did not see the affair in this light, or I must have got more.

Previous to the receipt of your letter and by this Oportunity I furnished Messrs. Arnold, Ward and Vernon with their respective Accounts Current of which Copies are inclosed, by which you will see they owe me the Ballances following: Mr. Arnold . . . . . £7.1.8; Mr. Ward . .

. . . £14.14.10½; and Mr. Vernon . . . . . £0.18.9. which I wrote them to remit me by some of the Flaxseed Ships bound to this Kingdom, which be so good to know from them if they intend doing, if they do not, then please to receive from them said Ballances with their proportion of the Sum of £9.0.11 Brit. Stg. my part of the Ships freight. Captain Sheffield's Account Current is inclosed in my letter to Messrs. Fowler ballance due to me thereby is £1.5.1 Irish exclusive of the £4.7.8½ received of my Candles per your letter, also ¼ freight for the 10⅞ Hhds Flaxseed being £5.19.7½ Irish with ¼ of £2.6.8 received from Mrs. Cooke all which you'l be pleased to receive from him with any other sums you may think me intitled to receive from him as I have no Correspondance with him.

In mine to Messrs. Fowlers I requested you to dispose of my share of the Candles and invest their produce in new well cleaned flaxseed and in case you cannot barter them for this article in time to ship the same early in the Season, then endeavour to barter them for Pot Ash ⅔ds in first Quality and ⅓ in the Second Sort, or in best white Pearl-ashes, but if you cannot do either then please to dispose of them to best advantage as if they were your own (Tobacco excepted.) There is still £68.15 debt due by Wm. Edgar on Sales your flaxseed, tho have his draft accepted by another person from the two hope to be paid. very truely I remain, Gentlemen Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburgh, 29th October, 1787.

Sir:

I HAD the honour of paying you my respects the first Inst., which I doubt not will be come safe to hands, and by the present I think it as needful to inform you, that the news of a rupture betwixt Great Brittain and France being apprehended, has occasioned some revolutions in our trade likewise.

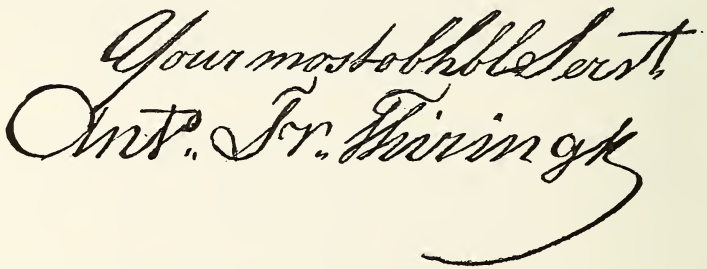
The principal effect which this has had, has been upon the new prices of hemp for next season, which have broke as early as high; clean hemp being contracted at Ro. 23. with all the money advanced before hands, the hemp to be delivered in June and July next, as also at Ro. 25. with Ro. 5 per Berk'z down the remainder payable at the delivery, which is likewise about midsummer. Sailcloths continue to be looked for, several thousand pieces have been laid in to answer any future demand, by which the prices of the same are advanced from 10. to 15. per Cent. The other russ Linnen manufacturies are almost ingaged, the Flems from Ro. $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 12. Ravenducks from Ro. $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{3}{4}$ per piece and Drillings from 18. to $18\frac{1}{2}$ Cop. per Arschin. Flax has also been contracted at Ro. 24. with all the money advanced before hands. Iron maintains its price likewise from 112 to 125. Co. per pood; notwithstanding the parcell laying upon the spot may be computed at a million and a half of poods.

As uncertain as matters are, from the many clouds gathering in the political hemisphere, nevertheless 'tis not to be supposed, that the prices of these Goods will undergo any decline for the time to come, as the first purchases of the same in the interial parts of the country, have been made extraordinary high, besides carriage and Labourage are become so very dear, on account of the scarcity of all kinds of food, which has its natural effect upon every article in trade; and so all the clean hemp that's laying upon the spot, has been ingaged at Ro. $24\frac{1}{4}$ per B'z to be deliver'd either at present, or early next Spring. Tallow is the only article that's undergone a rapid decline, the price of the same being fallen to Ro. 35. per B'z owing to the intire stop of any further purchases on brittish account.

I thought it the more needful to give you this timely information, that you may be the better ineabled to take you directions accordingly, with what Goods you may happen to have upon hands, which from the prices they have been laid in at may offer'd you the more advantage.

Both Coffee and Sugars are likewise rising, particularly

the former, upon which great Speculation is made, our whole stock being laid hold of by almost one hand, by which the price is advanc'd to Ro. 15. per pood. good substantial white St. Domingo Sugar of a bright grain may fetch from Ro. 6½ to 7. per pood. Cochineal is demanded likewise at Ro. 190. to 200. per pood. with Indigo our markett is rather provided yet. whosoever any of the first class early in Spring will always obtain its price. I should be glad if you could get at these articles, as according to what I wrote you before, they may leave a good profitt. within I inclose a dupplicat of the List of our this years Exports for America that you may become the better judge of the nature of your trade and recommanding myself to your favours and friendship I remain most respectfully, Sir:



Amsterdam 38*s*, London 40½*d*.

F. Baudin to Ethan Clarke and Co.

St. Martin's, Isle of Rhé, November 2d, 1787.

Sirs,

I am indebted to Captain Joseph Gardiner of your Sloop *Industry* for the honour of an Introduction to you. he came here from Rochelle for a Cargo of Salt which I supply'd him with together with four pipes of our common low proof Brandy and 18 Casks of prime quality white wine Vinegar, the amount of which he pay'd me in Cash and in the proceeds of a parcel of hhds. Staves he had on board. the Invoice of the Cargo and Sales of the Staves he is bearer of and will communicate both to you. the Staves were sold at a high price and Liv: 50 per Thousand more than the

like could sell again unless there was a great scarcity. I shall be happy if this begining would induce you to more considerable dealings in our quarters, especially in sending back Captain Gardiner with an assorted Cargo of the same produce he brought this Voyage. the Tar fetch'd a good price and will keep up if as it is very likely we have war with England. Pipe and Barril Staves have more demand here than the hhd. but the other kinds will sell in prefference. if you were to send the *Industry* to Carolina for such an other Cargo, she might take some Buck and deer Skins. the last imported from Mississipy fetch'd Liv. 3 to 3½ per lb. Some Casks of Rice, a small parcell of Indigo and other products from Carolina but no Tobacco as all our Markets are now glutted with that Commodity which the holders can find no Sale for tho' they offer it at £28. Liquors and wines are much higher in price on account of the bad wine Crop we have had. the Augumentation has been of 30 per Ct. on Brandys within three months, which must undoubtedly influence on the prices with you. Captain Gardiner has taken the cheapest in prefference. he could have had some of a higher proof but the price rises in proportion from £4.10 per velt for the common sort to £6 for the London Standard Cognac. The price of Salt is also in proportion to the quality from £360 per 28 Moys to £500 for the whitest kind. that which Mr. Gardiner loaded at £430 is of a good quality and clear colour'd large grain no doubt answerable for your market. You may Gentlemen if you think proper keep the *Industry* constantly employ'd to this port, being a small vessell you will always be sure of a good and quick Sale for her imports which as much as possible must be assorted in the different articles your Country affords.

Should any of your friends have dealings to transact here in the Salt, wine or Liquor Branches, I beg you will recommend my house to 'em and be assur'd that your or their Interests will be taken care of as my own. I most sincerely am, Sirs, Your very humble Servant,

F. Baudin

John Freebody to Christopher Champlin

Newbern, 12th November, 1787

Sir,

These will inform you with my safe arrival here, but find markets exceedingly dull, as yet have not dispos'd of any of your Goods, excepting about 50 Lbs. of Nails, which I have sold at 2/6 per lb. your goods I cannot sell as low as the Merchants from Philadelphia and New York sell theirs. their Goods are laid in lower than yours, and they sell at 4. for one from the Sterling Cost. the most I have been offer'd for the Rum is 7/. per Gallon you may be assur'd that I do the utmost in my power to dispose of them to the best advantage. should be glad of a Line from you, respecting them. I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Humble Servant,

John Freebody

W. India Rum 6/6 to 7/ N. E. Do. 5/6 to 5/9
Molasses 3/4 to 3/6. Brow [n] Sugar 100/ to 120 per Cwt.
Loaf Sugar 3/ per lb. Coffe 4/ Chocolate 3/.
Corn 25/ per bbl. Tarr 12/ Turpentine 12/ Pitch 14.
Tobacco 57/6 to 60/ Tallow 1/6 Beeswax 3/8*d.*
Flaxseed 12/ per bushel. Exchange from 14/ to 16/ per Dollar.

Terms For Covering Freight

It is to be engaged to procure American registers and other essential documents to establish compleatly and effectually not only the property of the vessel or vessels so covered, but also the Cargo or Cargoes, they may be laden with, as American property altho' they may bona fide, belong to individuals of the British or French nation, and the Vessel or Vessels, and also their Cargoes be British or French property during their navigation, in the American, European or other Seas.

This business is performed compleatly in the Neutral Governments of Europe for a small Commission on the freight, the bona fide proprietors paying exclusively the expence of fees, and other expances officially incurred in America.

W. Green

Norfolk, Virginia, 21 November, 1787.

I have fully considered the business above stated and unless there should be more difficulties, for the future in procuring the necessary papers and Documents for this purpose than we have hitherto experienced or than I at present foresee, I will engage to comply fully with the above for the undermentioned rates vixt.

If the freight the vessel makes be one thousand pounds without any reference to the value of her Cargo	One and a Quarter per Cent.
If freight be above Two thousand pounds or two thousand pounds. .	Two and a half per Cent.

and this without any other charge unless for expences bona fide in America and paid by me.

And in case in the course of her voyage it should be necessary to adopt any other Cover, and to relinquish the American no charge shall be made at all.

PATRICK MACAULAY

Norfolk (Virginia) 20 November 1787.

In case any business should come into my hands in consequence of the above, I agree to charge no more than Two and a Half per Cent Commission.

P. MACAULAY [1]

NATHANIEL RUSSELL TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, 30th November, 1787.

Sir,

I RECEIVED your favor of the 12th Instant covering Captain Grants bill on Messrs. Lawson Price and Co. for 610 Spanish Mill'd dollars at Twenty days sight which was accepted the 26th Instant. The price of New Rice is not yet broke they ask 13/6 I imagine it will break at about 12/6. I will make the purchase for you when I think it at the Lowest and endeavour to ship it agreable to your directions. the premium on Specie is from 10 to 12½ per Ct.

[1] A similar agreement was signed with Thomas Fitzsimons in Philadelphia, December 7, 1787.

I hope to receive part of Stitt's Debt this winter, whatever I do receive I shall remit in proportion on Account of your Brothers Estate. not one shilling has been paid on Account of General Green's Bond. I am with Respect, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

NATHANIEL RUSSELL

Rice.	13/6	Muscovado Sugar. .	.38/ to 45/
Tobacco	21/	Load do	.10*d*
Indico.	best 5/	Coffee	.1/4
Northern Rum.	.2/		

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburgh, 30th November, 1787.

Sir:

I CRAVE referrence to my respects of the 29th ultimo when I advised you the occurrences of our Markett and the present being meant for that same purpose, as such I have to inform you that since the news of a pacific convention being concluded upon betwixt Great Brittain and France reached this place, our contracting business have been put to almost an intire stop and there has nothing been going forward in the Article of hemp, the price of which however, the Russes are endeavoring to maintain, by keeping the same upon Ro. 22. all the money advanced before hands and Ro. 24. with Ro. 4. per Berkowitz down the remainder payable at the delivery in June and July, at which rate however nothing has been bought yet, and untill a certain price is fix'd for that comodity, none can take place for that of Cordage. The Russ Linnen manufactories are also at a stand, however having perfect Winter and sledge way, we may soon expect fresh supplies, when the new prices will be open'd. Tallow maintains its price upon Ro. 35. and no further decline likely to be expected, as that article is rather scarce in the interial parts of the country, where prices have been driven up very high. Iron seems also to maintain its rate from 112 to 125 Co. per pood according to quality, which all may serve for your govern.

I had a Letter of late from our mutual good friend Mr. Niels Ryberg of Copenhagen and upon further considering of the proposal which I made you in regard to the sending of West India products to this place, it will be most needful, that you direct the Captains to touch at Copenhagen to have their cargoes landed there, particularly the Sugars as there is a clause in our Toll ordinance, that all rough Sugars imported hither must be accompanied with a Certificate that they are the real produce of the West Indies, upon which a duty of 20 Co. per pood is laid, but in want of such an attestation the Sugars are liable to 100 Co. per pood duty. As such a Certificate can't be procured by you, above that any Importation from the French West Indies in american bottoms occasioning some reflections, (our Court having a Treaty of Commerce with that of France :) to prevent this and what might prejudice you in some other respects, the best would be to have your Goods landed at Copenhagen, where they will be weight and reshipt on board of your own Vessells again, and provided with the necessary Certificates, by which they will be freed of all reflections whatsoever. This will at the same time serve another end yet and prevent any Article to come hither, that perhaps is not fit for our markett, which Mr. Ryberg is perfect Master to judge of, particularly as great care ought to be taken in respect to the quality of the Sugars as well as of that of the Indigo, upon all of which I have inlarged to said friend and who will join with me in promoting your Interest, which being my only View and wish, I beg leave to assure you anew that I am most respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant ANTO. FR. THIRINGK

Amsterdam 37½*s*. London 39½*d*.

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburgh, 21st December, 1787.

Sir:

THE 30th Ulto. I had the honour to wait upon you, to which beg leave to be referred, and by the present I have to

inform you, that at last the contracting prices of clean hemp for the insuing Season have been broke a new, both at Ro. 21. all money advanced before hands and at Ro. 23. with Ro. 2 per Berkowitz down, the remainder payable at the delivery in May and June, at which rates considerable purchases have been made both for England as well as France and 'tis computed that till this time near one third of the whole quantity of hemp has been contracted, that may be expected next Season. with Tallow it is rather slackening, since prices are declining on the foreign markets and may be bought at present the Candle Tallow for Ro. 32, and the Soap Tallow for Ro. 30 per Berq't. all money advanced before hands. Flax maintains its rate from Ro. 26 to 26½ all money down, like 'tis with Iron from 115 @ 125 Co. per pood. our winter continues with frost and perfect Sledge way, so that we may soon expect fresh Supplies of the russ Linnen manufactories. I inclose within a List of our this years Exports and remain with true Regard, Sir: Your most obedient humble Servant,

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK

Amsterdam 38*s*. London 39¾*d*.

HARY GRANT TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, 23 January, 1788.

Dear Sir,

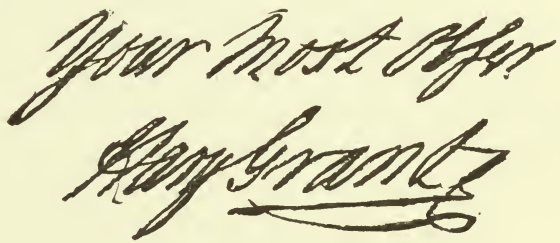
I HAVE to acknowledge your favors of the 8 Ulto; I am obliged to go in the Country for 10 days and I understand a Vessel will be going for your place before my return. I shall leave Orders to ship you 20 Tierces Rice with the 40 Mr. Russel sends will answer your demands for the present. Were I in Cash for you I should decline laying it out at present, for Rice must fall. I am sory to find the goods you sent by me will not answer, at present the Town is full of every species of Goods. I have only sold the Candles and part of the Rusia duck. The India Goods I have shewn to most of the merchants in Town *who all agree* they are too high by *40 to 50 per Ct.* how fortunate I was I made no pur-

chase from our friend Green : I have sent them to Vendue to give them a fair chance and sell them off. when sold the Account Sales shall be sent you. Our Legislator is now setting debating on our New Government which will certainly be adopted, No Soul paying a farthing of their debts till they see whether the Asembly will not prolong the Installment Act. I shall not be surprized if they do. the 1st March 1st payment becomes due. I long much for it, bad as you think R. Island we are as bad.

We have made great Crops shiping will be scairse. the new ship sails for London next week with a freight from 8 to 900 Guineas.

You may rely I will do the best with your goods and would have pincht my own remittance to have sent you 50 Bll had Mr. R. not been sending them rather then sacrifice your goods at present.

Please make my affectionate Compliments to Mrs. Champlin and your family in which Mrs. Grant unites. I wish it may be in my power to spend a few weeks next summer with you. I am with great Esteem, Dear Sir,



Rice 12/ Ct.
Tobacco 20/ Ct.
Indigo 2/ 5/ li.
Bohea Tea 1/8 1/10 lb.
Rusia duck 63/ 65/
Oil Sper. 3/ Gall.
Candles Do. 2/10 lb.

Silas Brenton is here with me. I am giving him a Cargo Lumber etc. for the Cape. his sister Mrs. McClahlan is quite recoverd.

My Compliments to Ben Brenton and family.

Be so good as [to] tell Mr. Bourse I have wrote to New Providence concerning Keiths Affairs. Nothing can be done till Answers from their.

Ant'o. Fr. Thiringk to Benjamin Pierce

St. Petersburgh, 4th February, 1788.

Sir:

My last respects to you was the 21st December l[ast] y[ear] and by the present I have the honour to inform you, that since that time the contracts of hemp have continually been carry'd on briskly, so that 'tis computed near one million and three hundred thousand puds to be bought already, the prices have continued very steady the clean hemp from Ro. 21 to 20½ all money down and from Ro. 23 to 22½ with Ro. 3 per Berkovitz advanc'd, the remainder payable at the delivery in June and July, upon which very conditions Outschott hemp has fetch'd Ro. 18½ and 20, and half clean hemp Ro. 16½ and 18, and there appears at present a particular demand for these inferior sorts of hemp for France, where the Marketts are quite drained of that Article by a demand for their Navy board, which seems to make great preparations, like a considerable quantity of clean hemp has been contracted for the same at this place. The quality of hemp that's to be expected this season being reported to be so very good, I should think you would do as well, to have your wants supplied with Outschot hemp, as the same stands in so much lower in price and will sute the better for your light Cables. from the high prices of hemp our ropemakers have advanc'd that of cordage to 250. Cop: per pud duty comprehended and whenever you do stand in need of any I'll be glad to have your orders in time, that proper preparations can be made for the same, our wharfs being almost empty at present. Iron maintains its price from 115 to 125 Cop. per pud according to quality, but Tallow is slackening and offerd out the candle at Ro. 31 and the Soap Tallow at Ro. 29 per Berkovitz all money advanc'd beforehands and the Tallow deliverable in May and June. The prices of the russ Linnen manufactories have not broke yet, the supplies thereof having been rather scantly till this time. 'tis supposed however, that the flems Linnens will come upon Ro. 11 Ravenducks upon Ro. 7 to

$7\frac{1}{4}$ per piece and the drillings at about $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 Cop. per Arschin, Sailcloths may run from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 11 Ro. per piece according to quality.

Our winter is rather mild but lasting, now and than there are very cold days and a great quantity of Snow is fallen, by which the roads are become rather heavy. I shall be glad to be favour'd with your Commands and remain very truely, Sir : Your most obedient humble Servant

ANT'O. FR. THIRINGK

Amsterdam $36\frac{1}{2}s$. London $38\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}d$.

DOUCE AND RIVINGTON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Fenchurch Buildings, [London,] 13th February, 1788.

Sir,

OWING to the various Claims of different Parties to the Money received by Mr. Brymer from Goverment, for the Cargo of the *Peggy* seized by Order of General Gage, the Cause in the Court of Chancery relating to that Affair, has experienced uncommon delay. But there is at length a certain prospect, of its receiving the decision of the Court, in the ensuing Term, which will begin early in February next; when we have every reason to hope, that ample Justice will be done to your demand. We have made use of every exertion to hasten the Progress of the Cause, and no pains shall be spared to secure a favorable termination of it. We are, Sir, Your very humble Servants

DOUCE AND RIVINGTON

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Dublin, 25th February, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I WROTE Messrs. Samuel Fowler and Son the 30th Ulto. and 4th inst. since received your favor of the 31st December per the *Hope* Captain Wall handing bill lading for 770 whole and 200 half hhds. of Flaxseed on your joint Account,

which you may be assur'd I shall dispose of to the best advantage the Market will admit, and your respective orders shall be duly attended to. the Ship is about ⅓ discharged and is up at the Quays. depend I shall give her every possible dispatch having a ship ready to go alongside with the coals and hope by the 10th March to get her away at furthest. I am sorry to inform you the very great quantity of Seed expected from America with what is arriv'd has induc'd many people to attempt forcing a Sale at Auction, when the Proprietors for want of Bidders kept the price to 50/ and 51/ and bought it in. this Step has been the means of keeping down the price and it is now selling at 50/ and some say it has gone so low as 48/, which indeed am not surprized at and do not doubt it will be yet so low as 45/6, especially if all arives from New York that is expected. Wherefore I have been induced to miss no offer from any of my Customers above 50/ and have disposed about 850 Hhds of different friends at 51/ to 54/, very few at the latter price, and am shipping 250 of yours to Drogheda in expectation of selling them to my friends in that Neighborhood. My letters from Cork say the price there is 45/6 and at Newry they have commenced at 49/. you may be assur'd I shall do all in my power to sell yours, for there must be a deal left over year. Our Oil Mills now offer only 30/ to 40/ per Cask for it and many even talk of less. Am concerned I have not a more pleasing account to give you of that article and am, very sincerely and respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant.

EDWARD FORBES

P. S. There has been very little sold yet to the farmers in the Country it will be a most miserable trade indeed to all concerned. I am unfortunate I think in having sold so much as I did and am sorry yours did not arrive as soon as Captain Rathbone indeed I never knew the ships to come in so early as this year. I am just inform'd Seed has been sold this day at 47/.

Account No. 2

Christopher Champlin Esqr. in account with William Green

To Conditional Credit in Account No. 3	£354.17.4	1784. May to 1786 Nov.	By an allowance to Christopher Champlin Esqr. for services rendered by him in the affairs of the Ship *Hydra*, exceeding in amount the terms offered Mr. Green by several American Merchants of the first Credit, and being also agreeable to the stipulations between them: Mr. Champlin on the one hand, having declared that he did not think himself able, and did not affect to cover more than her block, as American property: and Mr. Green on the other, having found it expedient to relinquish the American Cover in India and assume the French (at the expence of 2500 Sicca[1] Rupees).
	£354.17.4		£354.17.4

Newport, Rhode Island, March the 1st, 1788.
Errors Excepted, W. Green.

William Green to Christopher Champlin

Dear Sir,

Herewith you receive the modification of our account, with various documents connected with it, and on which a ballance may be struck, when Mr. Russel remits the proceeds of his Boston Sales.

A Commission of Two and a half per Cent is allowed on your Sales and Supplies, as well to Mrs. Green as to the Ship and Brig, that being a stipulation with you and the rate at which my business has hitherto been done on every part of the Continent, and in the West Indies.

There is a considerable difference between my account and yours, as to the proportionate value of Public Securities, and specie, at the time the *Hydra's* duties were payable, but my estimate is founded, and the amount of that charge

[1] Newly carried.

stated in your Credit, upon a Certificate, of which a Copy is inclosed, as after the emission of paper Money, every State Security became graduated in its value by that Scale of Depreciation.

You have also the terms of Cover, upon which my business has been volunteered not only here but in various parts of America. the Originals are at your inspection at pleasure, and you will then observe, that independant of my shifting my Colours in India, and taking those of France, your Conditional Credit in Account No. 2, is much higher, than the service might have been done for elsewhere.

At any moment after your examination I shall be ready to come to an amicable Settlement, being with great regard, Dear Sir, Most truly yours, W. GREEN

10 March, 1788.

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dear Sir,

SINCE receiving your note of yesterday evening, I have been engaged in tracing the difference between your account and mine, that I might communicate my observations.

The three first articles to your debit in account No. 1, differ only from yours in the charge of Commission, mine giving it according to the present custom of the Continent, at two and a half per Cent, at which rate your Commission business is done at New York, and mine everywhere; and it would indeed be singular, were I to pay you more than a stranger, or that agreeably to your doctrine, the poverty of the place should operate as an Argument in your favor, for where there is little Trade, the charges should be low to encourage its increase, and if your choice is to take all the trouble of your business on yourself, without the expence of a Clerk, that circumstance ought not to enhance the value of your labor. the other Articles to your debit, agree with your own Account excepting Daniel Pearce's note, which I presume you have received at least it ought to have been stopt out of his Wages.

A Commission of 2½ per Cent is also allowed in this account on the gross amount of all your supplies to the Ship the Brig and to Mrs. Green, and that is certainly a reasonable Commission since most of your charges to my debit, it is to be presumed were taken out at your Store, agreeable to the Custom of the place at your own price, and of course to your own considerable advantage, and the Alterations in diminution of your Credits proceed from the difference in our estimate of the discount to be allowed on paper Money or public Securities, paid at the Impost office.

In my account No. 2 a gross Sum is placed to your Credit for the various Services you profess to have rendered in the affairs of the Ship *Hydra*, and thence carried on to your Credit in Account No. 3, in which the debits and Credits are founded on your own documents, for it is to be imagined you regulated your price of pepper here by your own Sales at New York. I shall forbear on this occasion to dwell on the misconduct, with which she was managed, in consequence of your letters and advice, for doubtless had she gone either to New York or Philadelphia, I should have avoided a dead loss of at least Five Thousand pounds Sterling.

The constant tenor of your language haveing ever been, to avoid a reference and that the account should be left to my own Settlement has little prepared me for such a proposition, particularly at so late a period, and when you knew that the divided and embarrassed State of my affairs compels me to an immediate absence, which renders it impossible to give my personal attendance upon the referees, yet having now traced what I conceive to be the main difference between your claims and my allowance in my Account No. 1 and 3, I am willing on these points vizt. the rate of Commission and that of the Discounts upon any paper Medium payable at the Impost office, to yield to Arbitration, you chusing one Merchant of Character and I another, and if the two cannot agree upon the Case, they to chuse a third whose award shall be final, but I will not submit my Account No. 2 to any reference or Arbitration whatever.

I have hitherto carefully avoided giving any Character

of the Accounts you have tendered me, and it is with regret I am now compelled to observe, that I believe it is the first instance in North America, where the Charges of Commission and Duties upon an importation of East India Goods exceed the amount of Sales it was to have covered. I remain, Dear Sir, Your most humble Servant,

W. GREEN

Newport, 12th March, 1788.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO WILLIAM GREEN

Dear Sir,

YOUR letter of yesterday I received in the Evening. as to my commission of five per Cent it is no more than I have charged others for negotiating business far less complicated, and more profitable than yours; and without advancing monies in the first instance and waiting the event of the Sale to reimburse me, till the commissions were sunk. it is also a commission that the Merchants of this Town have generally charged, and with propriety: because in other places where business is done upon a large scale $2\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. is better than $7\frac{1}{2}$ at Newport. From S. Carolina have just receiv'd an Invoice of Rice with 5 per Ct. at the bottom. My terms at an early period were given you — if you did not approve, you were not compelled to consign me any goods, nor did I solicit any. Had you ordered the ship and goods reported for N. York or Philadelphia and ordered her to your Consignee, most surely I should have done it.

As to Peirce's note, which you charge me with, viz. in Account No. 1 £26 : 13 : 4, it remains unpaid, except the nine pounds Sterling to your credit in my Account, nor was it possible to obtain any more from him, unless I had arrested him, and taken paper money in the event. And he might have libelled the ship for his wages. You deduct from my Account against Brigantine *Betsey*, the light money and office fees for clearing at the Intendant's office which I paid in hard cash, as per Certificate from said office. As to the price of goods out of my Store, they are charged to you, as to others I deal with. Your presumptive

charge against me of fifty pounds 2/ in your Account No. 3 is very extraordinary, when you have actual credit for it in the Account Sales, at the price I disposed of twenty casks to Mr. Deblois of said pepper; from whom I have, under his hand, the price he gave for it. And above all, that you should wish to destroy your stipulation of two and half per Cent on the *Hydra's* outward bound cargo, made in your own writing, under your hand and Seal, by a misterious Account you have stated, viz. No. 2 which Account you positively refuse to submit to any reference whatever. As to the impost duty upon entering the *Hydra's* cargo etc., I shall not find it impossible to prove that I paid it in impost orders, and have given you the credit for the medium of discount on those orders, at the period I bought them. As to the reflection on me for conducting the business, I shall presume to say, it cou'd not be better done under the embarrassed situation of every man of business at that period, with penal Laws hanging over his head to work his ruin. And if you try me by events, I presume you are not free of error by the same rule. It would have given me great pleasure to have closed the business to our mutual satisfaction; but from the statement of your Account (if adhered to) I see no probability of it; unless I sacrifice every claim of right to my commission on the *Hydra's* outward bound cargo, by excluding it from the reference, which you cannot expect from, Sir, Your most humble Servant

CHRIS. CHAMPLIN

Thursday Evening, March 13, 1788.

WILLIAM GREEN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dear Sir,

IT is not with any degree of pleasure that I have engaged with you in Commercial Discussions, nor without a deep regret that I have thought myself compelled to object to your accounts. but I have hitherto suffered so much from the indulgence of a liberal spirit in business, that now, almost too late, I am obliged to retrench and reform it;

and having offered to submit what I conceive to be the main points in our dispute to Arbitration, I shall cease, on such any farther animadversion.

My mind is open to the force of your remark on my account No. 2. I acknowledge the stipulation agreed upon between us, at a period when the American Flag was looked up to as a Cover of a free and independent Commerce, by Individuals of every Nation: but in the progress of my voyage and its event, so very far from that flag being useful to any purpose of mine, that in India I was constrained to relinquish it entirely: and at the instance of my friends, and by the exertion of their interest in that Country I was permitted as a special favor, and even then at a heavy expense to assume the French. What then became of your Cover and Commissions. Was it of any avail in St. Eustatius, where I was obliged to smuggle my Cargo, being formally prohibited from any open traffic. Has it been of any material service here, since independent of you or me, Mrs. Green in her own right could have introduced infinitely many more Goods than appear to have been adequate to the demands of the market.

I am persuaded you are too reasonable not to agree, that the stipulation which you very properly dwell upon, was to have been a reward for correspondent services, but if the nature of your Government, or a combination of foreign powers, destroy the sources from whence these services were to have been drawn, do they not at the same time annihilate the eventual profits.

It would be easy to me to prove by fifty testimonies, that my entry in Bengal was as a Frenchman, that measure was dictated by necessity not by choice. Would not that proof dissipate your Commission claim *in toto*, for it certainly in case of an accident would have removed your possibility of Cover. Here then and only here, were you in the capacity of utility to me, and I think you have very reasonably estimated the value of that to be one hundred and thirty three pounds, in lieu of which my account No. 2 gives you a Credit of Three hundred and fifty.

I doubt not that what I have urged herein, will have a proper [weight] and influence upon your mind, which will then be divested of its present prejudices respecting the accounts now pending with, Dear Sir, Your faithful Humble Servant,

W. GREEN

Newport, 14 March, 1788.

HARY GRANT TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, 14 March, 1788.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE to acknowledge both your favors. I was in the Country a dunning, when Hulls Schooner left this, but to little purpose, since ever I knew this place, people never was so backward in their payments, nor trade at such a stand. You may believe me, when I tell you that for ether old or new debts I have not received *the Value* of One Hundred [1] Your Tea remains unsold, and cannot get above 1/8 for it, and cannot think of parting with it. Since I wrote you last I have sold nothing but a few peaces Russia duck. as to the India Goods nobody would touch them. I tried them at every Vendue in Town. You will see by the Account Sales the horid Prices they brought. I wish I had returnd them but never had an Idea they would be so very far under the mark.

I am thankful I had nothing to do with Mr. Green with respect to purchases.

By the return of Captain Hulls Schooner shall endeavour to close the sales, as much for your advantage as possible, and I do asure you it gives me pain our first Conection in Business will not prove so fortunate as I wish. I go for Savanah in a few days, but will be return'd by Hulls arrival. Pray make my best respects to your good family in which Mrs. Grant joins. I am with Esteem, Dear Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

HARY GRANT

[1] Illegible.

Anto. Fr. Thiringk to Benjamin Pierce

St. Petersburgh, 21st March, 1788.

Sir:

I had the pleasure of writing you last the 4th Ulto. since which no great variations have happened in the prices of the russ products. but of late the demand for hemp has been increasing, so that for clean hemp has been paid Ro. 21½ to 22 all money down and Ro. 22½ ro 23 with Ro. 2 per Berkowitz advanced. the inferior sorts of hemp are likewise much demanded and have fetchd the outschott hemp Ro. 19 all money down and Ro. 20 to 20½ with Ro. 2 per Berkowitz advanced, as also the half clean hemp Ro. 18 and 19 per Berkowitz. the price of Iron continues also from 115 to 125 Co. per pud, but those of the russ Linnen manufactories have got up very high, and the whole Stock that was brought hither this winter, has been ingaged already, flems Linnen from Ro. 11½ to 12. Ravenducks from Ro. 7½ to 8 per piece and Drillings from 17½ to 18½ Co. per Arschin, and there is no decline from prices to be expected of those parcells that may come by the Barks, as the Supply will be but scantly, great quantities being ingaged for the use of our Army and fleet. Sailcloths however continue from Ro. 7½ to 11 per piece according to quality and there is rather less demand for the same. Tallow is the only Article that underwent a further decline, the price of which being falln to Ro. 28 per Berkowitz without any demand, and may go yet lower if matters continue in the present Situation.

Our Courses of Exchange stand low and there is no particular Rise of the same to be foreseen as the maintaining of our Army and fleet abroad will require large supplies of money that are partly provided for with Remittances from hence. The weather is at present very mild and if it continues so, our Rivers may be navigable in about three Weeks time. I have not had the pleasure yet of hearing from you. I flatter myself however to be favourd with your Commands by some or an other ship thats coming our way this Season, and you may depend upon that my utmost endeavours will

be excerted to serve you to full Satisfaction like I remain with the most perfect Regard, Sir: Your most obedient humble Servant,

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK

Amsterdam 35¾ to 36*s*. London 37½ to ¾*d*.

NIELS RYBERG TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Sir: Copenhagen, the 25th March, 1788.

I AM honoured with your much esteemed favour of the 28th December l. y. of which I observed with great pleasure that Capt. Peirce was safe arrived and his Cargoe found in good order. I hope same met a favourable Markett, and that the Expedition on the whole turn'd out satisfactory, altho' I must allow the high Price of Hemp and duty on the Rice lessened the Profit you may have reaped.

I am much obliged to you for your kindness in again loading the *Elisabeth* Capt. Peirce and intending to address same to me. you may rely upon that I in return shall do my utmost to procure you agreable Sales on arrivall. I have made repeated Applications to our College of Commerce for procuring an Abatement of the Dutyes but same is not yet agreed upon, and the Reason which has hindered this is, that a commercial Treaty must be made betwixt you and this Kingdom for to bring same on the lowest footing, yet I flatter meself that before Capt. Peirces arrival some Alteration and Resolution will have taken place.

The Letter you inclosed for Messrs. Edward James Smith & Co. in St. Petersburg have forwarded and at the same time recommended them your Interest in the best manner. the Prices of Hemp being so very high at present 21 Ro. per B'w'z and no Signs of declining I have intirely left it to their own Consideration to act in consequence of your order as they might think it most advantageous for your Interest, informing them at the same time, that as you expected the price of Hemp to be low and it being now the reverse it was a question if you chused to have so large a Parcell purchased as if the Price had been moderate; to buy now and sell after-

wards may be as well connected with Loss as Profit, as the Prices are very high at present, and such instances as you are pleased to mention where the Price with the advance of the year increased so considerable, is very rare to meet with and sometimes the contrary, depending of the great or small Purchases and Speculations in spring and occurrences afterwards happening unforseeen. I will now be informed of Mess. Smiths Resolution and on Capt. Peirces arrival know how to act in consequence, not doubting these Friends will observe your Interest in the best manner.

I have reason to hope your Comodities will sell as well this as last year, and in regard of Rice our dealers in that Comodity will surely order none from abroad when they can purchase here, and this will occasion a ready demand: at present no Prices can be noted of your Commodities our navigation being still shut by Ice.

By Letters sent you the 14th November and to which desire your referance you'll have observed that Mr. Thiringk is no more in Partnership with Mess. E. J. Smith and Co. but as your letter was directed to Mr. Smiths Firm I forwarded same to him, and if in future you should be willing to favour Mr. Thiringk with your Commands, you'll know by his own informations his Establishment.

I recommend meself to your Favour and remain respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

Errors Excepted

Ryberg & Comp.

Exchange
Hamburg 43½ per Ct.
Amsterdam 35½ per Ct.
London 6.26/ per £

P. S. Sail Cloth has no great Demand yet at Petersburg and no fixed Prices. a Ro. is 37 st. holl[and] C'ry.

William Willcocks to Christopher Champlin

Cork, 5th April, 1788.

Gentlemen,

Your much esteemed favor of 29th February was handed me the 21st ult. by Capt. Wardwell of the brig *Patty* for which am much obliged, by it I perceive you have ordered Messrs. Hewes and Anthony of Philadelphia to ship to my address 100 Hhds. of Flaxseed per ship *Hannibal* Capt. Conynham who is not yet arrived but daily expected. I am sorry to inform you, that this Market is greatly overdone with Flaxseed already near 5,000 Hhds arrived but being divided into many hands has reduced the price so low as 41/6 per Hhd. which some sold for at auction the 2d Inst. I have written to Belfast and if the *Hannibal* soon arrives and goes thither I think it best to let your seed go if the price is any thing tolerable. I am exceedingly vex'd that this beginning that you are pleased to make with me promises so little advantage to you, another time I hope it will be otherwise when I will be happy to be honoured with your commands. Pot Ashes is in great demand and none at Market. they'd readily sell for 34/ to 35/ per Ct. Barrel Staves £6.10 Hhd £9 to £9.10 and Oak boards white 16/ per 100 feet. I remain with respect Your Obedient Servant,

Will : Willcocks

None but White Oak Staves will sell here.

Protheroe and Claxton to Christopher Champlin

Bristol, 9th April, 1788.

Sir,

We did ourselves this pleasure the 6th February last, since which we have not received any of your esteemed Favors; We now hand you Invoice and Bill of Lading for sundry Goods shipped on your Account by the *Bristol,*

the amount of which £236.15.6 is to your debit. Notwithstanding this Ship has been detained so long, we have not been able to get near the quantity of Crown Glass you ordered; indeed it has been with very great difficulty we have got what is shipped. The remainder is getting ready and shall be sent you by the first opportunity that offers after we get it. We gave the Shot Maker your Order with your limit of 18/ per C. but you will observe that it is charged at 24/. per C. without attending to the limit we gave him, he put the Shot on board, and charged it at the current price, but we have objected to it, and he says he is contented to submit it to you, and if you are not perfectly satisfied, he will lose his trouble of making, or more. The Lead cost him we know 21/. per C. besides the expence of bringing from Wales, and all the Shot we have shipped by this Vessell is charged at 24/. per C. but as you gave a limit, we should not have thought ourselves justified in exceeding it.

We have got the Freight of these Goods considerably under the usual rate. Many articles are at half freight. We hope the whole will arrive safe and afford you satisfaction. the premium of Insurance we have also got lower. We are with Esteem, Sir, Your very obedient Servants

PROTHEROE AND CLAXTON

ELIZ'A JENKINS TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charlestown, April 10th, 1788.

Dear Brother,

I HAVE lately received a letter from Congo, and he informs me his troubles are so great that they are not to be bourn with any lounger, occationed by his being sepperated from his Wife. I ever intended to give him his freedom and the reason why I have not done it before, was the fear of not haveing enought to support me, without his Labour, my Infermity rendering me unable to do but little towards it my self. And these objections still remain, but as I am very sencable all self intrust ought to be given up in points of Duty, have come to a fixed resolution to make the trial

and set him at Liberty. Accordingly have wrote him when his year is out he is his own Man. as he is so uneasy I suppose he will have a mind to quit your service. if that shoud be the case have desir'd him to stay till you git other help (if you want him).

from your Affectionate Sister

E. Jenkins

Hary Grant to Christopher Champlin

Charleston, 16th April, 1788.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor, of the 29 february by Cahoon, and inclose you prices current acording to your desire. I could have wisht to [have] acompanied this with a remittance for your Tea, but cannot get it off at near the Mark: I shall indeavour to get small empty Chests, etc. started into for they never will sell in the present pacages — by far too large. Indeed every thing at present is dull, and for payments worse this year then I ever experienced. You may believe me when I tell you, that out of 60 to 70 Thousand Sterling my friends in London have out here, I have not yet received one Thousand this year. I have given over all hopes untill we have a Government will not do justice till compeld. I wish I may be able to spend a few Weeks this Sumer with you. Mrs. Grant joins me in best respects to you and family. She begs Mrs. Champlin and Mrs. Greens Acceptance of Cask Grow Nuts and some Vinison Hams. I am with respect, Dear Sir, Your Most Obedient Servant,

Hary Grant

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Forbes and Son

Dublin, 17 April, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to refer you to the preceding Copy of my Letters of the 25 February and 4th ulto. which I confirm.

The detention of the *Hope* enables me to inform you I have disposed of all your flaxseed by her except about 30 hhds. and a few half Barrels. indeed it would have been all sold long since if it had been well cleaned, but there was a deal of it that had much black Grains in them and many false seeds and chaff owing to its not being well cleaned. I never experienced so much difficulty in disposing of this article as this year, such an immense Quantity as 14,400 hhds arrived here (exclusive of two Ships with 1800 hhds from Philadelphia missing but now supposed to be lost) and in so many different Hands who had People retailing it in all parts of the City and underselling each other that the Price has been for some days past down to 45/ per hhd and still looking down. I assure you I miss'd no Opportunity of putting off yours. many of my old country Customers after bargaining for Parcells and giving a shilling earnest (as is usual) were inveigled away and bought at a cheaper rate. Notwithstanding I have sold more than any other House here and have no doubt of putting off the Remainder of yours, altho' above 3000 Hhds must remain after the sowing season and its thought above 10,000 hhds will remain unsold throughout the Kingdom. at Newry the price is 42/, Belfast 47/, and at L'Derry 2 Guineas. indeed a ship belonging to Boston came from thence yesterday with 600 Casks that would not be landed so much have they [at] Market. its a shocking bad Trade and am truly sorry you are heavy Sufferers. that of yours which I sent to Drogheda not yet all sold; the Newry and Cork People sent several parcells there which retarded the Sale and reduced the price, have press'd my friends in that Vicinity to take from my friend there what they may want, which they have promised me to do but indeed they complain of its being the dirtiest Seed at that Market. nothing else I am perswaded will retard its Sale, and in a glutted Market as is the Case every where this Season its very difficult to put off indifferently cleaned Seed. I shall go there next week and use my utmost endeavours to close the Sale. I am sincerely, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servant EDWARD FORBES

P. S. 18th. Flaxseed has been sold today at 44/ the Arrival this Boston Vessell has made a great alarm on account of her coming from Derry.

April 23d. My Advices from Newry yesterday F: seed was at 38/ to 40/, same at Cork, in short every place glutted and two Coasters have come in here from Derry and Newry which has reduced the price at 42/6 and it will be lower. Shocking work.

Christopher and George Champlin to Anthony F. Thiringk [1]

Newport, Rhode Island, April 22nd, 1788.

Sir,

Having been favour'd with your letters of October 29th and November 30th last conveying to us sundry useful informations respecting Russian Exports and Imports for which we are much oblidged and shall take occasion to write you more particular upon those heads. We wrote your late house of Smith and Co., December 28th under Cover to Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. of Copenhagen, requesting they wou'd procure a quantity of clean Hemp on our Account against the Arrival of our Brigantine. We therefore have the pleasure of confirming said letter to you as the remaining Branch of said house by our Brigantine *Elizabeth* Captain Benjamin Peirce who will wait upon you with a letter of Credit from Mr. Nicholas Ryberg to furnish him for our Account with Forty Tons clean Hemp, Three hundred Pieces of Russia duck and Forty eight Pieces of Ravens Duck all good in kind and such as Capt. Peirce shall approve of as suitable to our Market. At Writing 28th December we had no Idea of Hemp rising to the extravagant price you noticed but are happy to find by your letter to Capt'n Peirce of December, it has fell and we flatter our selves it may still be lower at the hour you purchase ours as all the speculation had ceas'd oweing to the expected Warr. We

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

place the utmost confidence you will purchase the goods we require on the lowest terms possible and give Capt'n Pierce the utmost dispatch, handing us the State of your Markets and your opinion what they may be another year to come, and which is the best method for us to proceed in fixing a Credit that you may buy in for us Forty Tons of hemp next Winter at the lowest price in like manner as the London Merchants do. With Sentiments of Respect, We are, Sir, Your most humble Servants

CHRIS: CHAMPLIN
GEO: CHAMPLIN

BENJAMIN PEIRCE TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Copenhagen, June 2d, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I ARRIVED here the last day of May having a passage of 36 days of very disagreeable weather. the Brigantine is certainly a good vessel or she never cou'd supported the sail I carried without complaint. the old sails brought me here and expect they will carry me half the way home. have expended 1½ bbls. *meat* and 3 Cwt. Bread. the running rigging fail'd more than expected which am affraid will oblige me to buy some. I found Mr. Ryberg in as good credit as any man in *Europe* as a Merchant and have accordingly deliver'd the letters and shall the Cargo in 3 days. I find Tea at 30½*s* Danish per lb. the Chinaman mention'd by Mr. Ryberg arrived two days before me but the Sales of her Cargo is not announced and it is generally thought it will be in September. they expect two more this season. there is no tea at Gottenburg, but they expect two ships. Rum is from 32½ Rxd. to 33 for the Hhd of 63 Gal. Rice 7 Rxd. per Cwt. Tobacco 10*s* to 12 Danish if the Quality be good. Hemp at St. Petersburg 22 Rubles per Burkovitz, but they were in expectation of its falling in consequence Mr. Ryberg has advised Mr. Thiringk not to purchase 'till I arrive in

Russia for which place I expect to sail in ten days. The Swedes have twelve ships of the line and six frigates ready for Sea the expence of which is paid by the Porte. The Danes are also equiping a fleet of the same force. I shall write you again before I leave this. there has no vessel arrived from St. Croix this Season. Please to inform Mrs. Peirce. I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

BEN PEIRCE

Exchange with London Rxd. 6.22^{8} per £ Sterling.

NICHOLAS RYBERG TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Copenhagen, the 3 June, 1788.

Gentlemen:

I BEG your Referance to my respects of the 25th March via London and had yesterday the pleasure to receive your Favour of the 22d April, by Capt. B. Peirce who arrived safe.

I am much obliged to you for your kindness in addressing him to me, and assure you of my greatest Care for your Interest in disposing of his Cargoe, Bills and Cash; he has begun to unload to day. About the end of this week he will be ready for going to Petersburg when I shall furnish him with the needfull letters, if Messrs. Smith and Co. in consequence of your request have purchased the ordered Goods will be difficult to transfer the order on Mr. Thiringk, therefore shall furnish Capt. Peirce with such papers as either case may require. Hemp by the last accounts was still Ro. 22½. I realy wish it may be declined against his arrival. Agreable to your order I shall on his return from Russia supply him with Bohea one box Hyson and 1 ditto Souchong for the remainder of the effects, and a Chinese cargoe being already arrived and two yet expected I hope the Sales will come on before his return and that the Purchase may be made at a moderate price. When the Sales are held of his Cargoe shall have the honor to inform you of the obtained Prices.

A great Armament is made at Sweden in favour of the Turks and said to hinder the Russien fleet passing the Sound

on the way to the mediteranean, but as this is expected by the Russiens, accounts from Stockholm and Gottenburg say it looks very warlike, and that there prevails a Rapport, that hostilities will be or are declared by the Russiens against the Swedes if a disarmament be not directly agreed to by the latter. My next shall acquaint you of the result, and [in] Denmark we hope to enjoy Peace. I recommend meself to your favour and am with great Regard, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servant,

N. Ryberg

Hamburg Bo. 43½
Amsterdam Cy. 34
London per £6 rxd 22

F. Baudin to Ethan Clarke and Company

St. Martin's Isle of Rhé, 6 June, 1788.

Sirs,

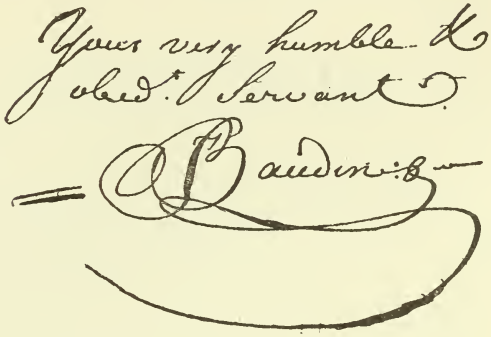
Deprived of your favours since mine of 2 9bre inclosing Invoice of Salt and Brandy per Captain Gardiner this serves to repeat my offers of best Services and to inform you that our wine crop has a beautiful prospect. the actual Currency of Brandy is L. 115 per 27 Velts. it was L. 135, 3 weeks ago and it is expected to be under L. 90 in the fall and perhaps L.70, so that you can't have a better opportunity to be cheaply supply'd with that Commodity than this year.

Our Salt Season has begun pretty favourable and if we have two months of fair weather without interruption that Comodity now at L. 370 per 28 Moys may come down to L. 300 or L. 320.

A Velt of Brandy is much about 2 English Gallons and a Moy of Salt nigh equal to one English Tun.

If you send Capt. Gardiner or any other vessal this way you might load 'em with assorted Oak and Firr Timber, Staves, 2 inch Planck, 1½ inch Pine boards, floor Timbers and others for small 40 to 50 Tuns Vessalls, a parcell of Pitch and Tar and other such Lumber, these articles will fetch a good price here and the returns will be made in Salt and

Brandy. I shall be happy in yours or your friends Commands due attention to which will be payed by, Sirs,



Benjamin Peirce to Christopher Champlin

Copenhagen, June 11th, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I had the pleasure of addressing you the 3d instant over London as above, since which nothing material has *turn'd up.* the cargo come out in exceeding good order and think the prospect of the market is more favorable than when I wrote and will continue to mend 'till the sales (if no vesel arrives with the like goods) which is the 25 of this month. it cou'd not be sooner and allow time for the Merchants to write their correspondents in the trading towns to get orders to purchase as no Dane seems to be willing to speculate.

The sales of the Tea Ships cargo is not yet advertised for sale nor no other ship arrived but daily expected, and there is a scarcity of that article at present to be bought here. 'Tis the opinion of my friends here the Tea will go much lower at the auction than 30½ Danish which has induced me to omit purchaseing 'till my return from Russia for which place I am now ready to sail. Russia goods continues the same. I shall give every dispatch in my power and expect on my arrival at Cronstadt to have an opportunity to write you by some of the American Vessels there being several there. the warlike preparations continue the same. the

Swedish fleet have left Carlscroon [Carlscrona] and gone up the Gulf of finland. I am Gentlemen your Obedient Servant

BEN PEIRCE

N. B. the Spanish Dollars sold for 8 marks 4 skillings or 5/6 Danish; Exchange Rxd 6.20s per £ Sterling.

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburg, the 23d June, 1788.

Gentlemen:

WE had the honour to waite upon you the 4th April last under cover of Messrs. Lane Son and Fraser of London and in Reply to your esteemed Favour of the 28th December last year. We have now to confirm the Contents of said our Letter, beg leave to refer to it and the pleasure to acquaint you with the safe arrival here of your Brig the *Elizabeth*, Captain Benjamin Peirce, which was yesterday at Cronstadt. Said Captain is not come up yet, when does, shall consult with him about the Cargo and acquaint you further.

Clean Hemp stands upon Ro. 23½ and 23 per Berkovitz, Outshott Ro. 23, and half clean Ro. 22, 12 heads Novgorod Flax Ro. 30 per Berkovitz, Candle Tallow Ro. 29 to 30, and Soap Tallow Ro. 27 to 28 per Berkovitz, Sail Cloth from Ro. 7 to 10½, Ravenduck from Ro. 7½ to 8, Flems Linnen Ro. 11½ to Ro. 12.30 Co. per piece, Drillings 18 to 18½ Co. per arsheen, first Sort Bristles Ro. 12.85 Co., 2d Sort Ro. 6½ per pood, Yellow Wax Ro. 15½ per pd. Tarred Cordage Ro. 2¾ per pd.

Our next will acquaint you what we have determined with Captain Peirce, in the meantime we are most respectfully, Gentlemen: Your most Obedient humble Servants,

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO.

Ams[terdam] 34 to 33¼*s*. London 34¾ to 34¼*d*.

Hewes and Anthony to Christopher Champlin

Philadelphia, 23d June, 1788.

Dear Sir,

We received your favor of the 23d ultimo by your worthy son, who we esteem, *sensible*, *discreet*, and *agreable;* and it affords pleasure to tell you that all who was so happy as to be acquainted with him, was much pleas'd with his Society. we made him a Tender of what money he requir'd, but he accepted of only Forty Dollars, and set out on Wednesday last for Baltimore, Alexandria, and perhaps Richmond. on his Return we hope for more of his pleasing conversation, and shall then tender him what further sum he may require. we hope before this reaches you that you will have Accounts of the New Constitution ratified by the Commonwealth of Virginnia; but by late accounts from thence, it appears *more doubtfull* then we *once* expected. with an anxious desire to see this Federal Government once organiz'd (which promises much Happiness to Posterity,) we Remain with Esteem and Respect, Your Very Obedient Humble Servants,

Hewes and Anthony

Edward James Smith and Co. to Christopher and George Champlin

St. Petersburg, the 27th June, 1788.

Gentlemen:

Last Post we only advised the safe arrival of the *Elizabeth*, Captain Benjamin Pierce at Cronstadt, to which refer. Since Captain Pierce is come up, of whom we understand, that on account of said Captains having received some Letters of our former Partner Mr. Anthony Frederic Thiringk in his private Name, mentioning nothing of our Partnership to be disolved and afterwards by the last of being, by which as well you as Captain Pierce (who knowing him as our Partner) either thought of our having left Trade or departed this Life, that in consequence of not hearing any thing of our firm you had given said Captain Orders to apply for the

Goods he is to take at present from this Place, to our former Partner Mr. Thiringk. The Reason of your not receiving any Circular Letters about the Dissolution of our Society, was: that as we had not the honour before to correspond with you direct and the Goods you received from us last year, were through the Management of our mutual Friend Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. at Copenhagen, we did not know how to address direct to your good selves, nor a safe way to conduct our Letters, till we received your Favour of the 28th December last year which answered the very day it came to out hands Vizt. the 4th April last, by the way you've ordered us, which is under Cover of Messrs. Lane Son and Fraser of London. Our partnership with Mr. Thiringk was dissolved in Harmony the 30th September last year not expecting he would have wrote any thing beforehand in his own Behalf without mentioning of our Dissolution to be. But all this now being past, we wont enter into any more and further particulars, and only acquaint, that on account these Circumstances, Captain Peirce has resolved to divide the Shipment of the Goods now to be loaden per the *Elizabeth*, between our former Partner and us. Mr. Thiringk is to provide the Iron and the Sail Cloth, and we the Clean Hemp, the quantity of the Hemp to be about poods 2300.

In consequence hereof we have purchased for your account said quantity of the best clean Hemp at Ro. 23 per Berkowitz in Bank Notes and shall send the same down to Cronstadt as soon as possible to be loaden on board the *Elizabeth*, and when done all the Vouchers will be made up and conducted in the same manner as last year and our Reimboursement we take upon our mutual Friend Ryberg Esqr. at Copenhagen, of all which we shall not miss to advise you in course.

Now knowing the Channel perfectly to conduct our Letters, we shall take the Liberty of waiting oftener upon you and to keep you advised from time to time with what passes. in the meantime we recommend ourselves in the favour of your future Commands, wherein you may allways depend on our Zeal and our utmost Care for your Interest,

not doubting to give you in every thing full Satisfaction and to serve you as well as any house in this place.

Though we had your prior orders for the present Cargo per the *Elizabeth* we don't blame Captain Pierce in the least for having shared the same, nor do we in the least envy our late Partner; on the contrary we approve very much of the Steps taken by Captain Pierce and agreed to it without any hesitation like we are glad the other share is fallen to Mr. Thiringk, who we dare say will serve you well. For the Future leave it to your own Discretion whom of us you will please to favour with your worthy Commands. should esteem ourselves very glad if the Scale would turn on our side and happy to receive your Commands, wherein you will allways find us ready devoted and most respectfully, Gentlemen :

Your most Obed.t humd.e Serv.ts

Edward James Smith & Co.ff

Nicholas Ryberg to Christopher and George Champlin

Copenhagen, the 28th June, 1788.

Gentlemen:

I desire your referance to my respects of the 3d inst. by which I had the pleasure to acquaint you of Capt. Peirces safe arrival. He sailed from here the 12th and would have proceeded sooner on his Voyage to St. Petersburg, but calms prevented him. I furnished him with two letters of Credit one for Messrs. Edward James Smith and Co. and the other for Mr. A. F. Thiringk, that he according to circumstances may make use thereof. His Cargo was sold the 25th and I am glad to inform you of having received agreable Prices,

the Rice being paid with 7 rx : 52/ to 8 rx : 92, per medium above 8 rx
" Rum " " " 32 rx " to 33 : 24 per 60 Gallon
" Tobacco " " " 10/ to 13/ per li

with which Prices I flatter meself you'll be pleased. I can likewise have the pleasure to inform you that the Price of Hemp at St. Petersburg is expected to decline and likely Capt. Peirce may be supplyed at R 20 Exchange 35*d* St. per Ro. The day after the mentioned Sales, Capt. Handy and Lawton arrived.

I recommend meself to your favour and am with great Regard, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servant

By Proc. of N's Ryberg,
SAABYË

BENJAMIN PEIRCE TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburg, July 6th, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I ARRIVED here 2 days ago after a tedious passage of 22 days. I find the Hemp ready purchased by Mr. Smith in consequence of your letter over Ireland last winter, which I must take. the duck and Iron I shall take from Mr. Thiringk, Hemp (of which article there is a large crop and of an excellent quality) is at 23 Rubles per Bur'z Sailcloth and Iron the same as when Mr. Thiringk wrote. But the Exchange is 35*d* sterling per Ruble, so much in our favor that it reduces the price of Hemp free on board at Cronstadt to £24 per ton. I hope to be at Copenhagen by the first of August and shall give every dispatch in my power. Hemp will undoubtedly fall in autumn after the contracts are fulfill'd, unless there shou'd be a war between the maritime powers of Europe. the Swedes have 15 sail of the line cruizing in the Gulf about 150 miles from this and yesterday the Russ fleet of the same force left Cronstadt. there is no declaration yet and it is expected that the Swedes will not commence hostilities.

Paul Jones is made a Vice Admiral and a Compte of Russia and gone to take a Command on the Black Sea. if another

Vessel shou'd sail before me I shall inform you of my progress. Capt. Page is here in Mr. Brown's Brig't. I am Gentlemen your Obedient Servant,

BEN PEIRCE

[Endorsed,] Per the *Good hope* Capt. Forester.

INVOICE

St. Petersburgh, the 7th July, 1788.

Invoice of Two Bales with Forty-five pieces Ravenducks shipt on board the Brig *Elizabeth* Captain Benjamin Peirce for Newport in Rhode Island America, to the Consignment and for Account and Risk of Messrs. Christopher and George Champlin of said place, vizt.

2 Bales containing
No. 1. 1 Bale 20 pieces measuring 1000. Arshins
2. 1 do. 25 " " 1250 do.

2 Bales 45 pieces measuring 2250 Arshins
Ravenducks at Ro. 8 per ps. . . . . Ro. 360.– –

Charges:

Duty. . . . . at 40 Co. per piece	Ro. 18.– –	
Town duty. . . . at 1 p Ct.	.18.	
	Ro. 18.18.	
Customehouse Charges. . . .at 4 p Ct.	– –.73.	
24 Arshins Crash for wrappers with duty at 4 Co. . . .	– –.96.	
receiving Matts ropes, packing and shipping at 8 Co. per piece.	3.60.	
Lighterage to Cronstadt	1.50.	
Brokerage and Extra Charges . . .at 1½ p Ct.	5.50.	30.37.
		Ro. 390.37.
Commission at 2 p Ct.		7.81
Amount in Bank Notes.		Ro. 398.18.

Errors Excepted
ANTO. FR. THIRINGK.

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburg, the 8th July, 1788.

Gentlemen:

THIS goes by Captain Benjamin Peirce of your Brig the *Elizabeth*, in which have loaden and sent for your Account

and Risk as per inclosed duplicate Bill of Loading and Invoice, forty Bundles Clean Hemp weighing pds. [poods] 2425.20 lb. and amounting to Ro. 6346.47 Copecks, which sum shall draw on our mutual Friend Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. at Copenhagen and advise you off by post, whereby you will receive also duplicate Bill of Loading and Invoice with further Advices. We doubt not this Hemp will give Satisfaction, also that Captain Pierce will be intirely contented with the dispatch he met with from our part and we flatter ourselves to be favoured next year again with your worthy and wellcome Commands, in which and your Friendship we recommend ourselves. We beg leave to refer you to our Letter of the 27th past by Post under Cover and Care of Messrs. Lane Son and Fraser at London, wherein explained you fully how it is come, that we ship only your Hemp and our late Partner Mr. Anthony Frederic Thiringk the Iron and other Goods.

The price of good Hemp keeps yet on Ro. 23 per Berkowitz and may remain so for a while, old Sable Iron from 123 to 127 Co. and new Sable from 115 to 122 Col per pd. assorted Iron in proportion higher according to their Sorts and Dimensions, Sail Cloth from Ro. 7 to Ro. 10½, Ravenducks Ro. 8½ to ¾, Flems Ro. 12¼ to ½ per piece. Outshott and half Clean Hemp are this year above their usual Proportion to the clean, so high in prices that the Outshott is paid with Ro. 22½ to 23, and the half clean with Ro. 21½ to 22 per Berkowitz. The reason for it is: that these two Sorts are very much sought for France.

We wish Captain Peirce a happy and quick passage and the Hemp well to receive and to a good Market, being in all your further Commands most respectfully, Gentlemen: Your most obedient humble Servants,

Edward James Smith and Co.

We have advanced Captain Peirce for Ships Use Ro. 380. for which shall forward his Receipt to Mr. Ryberg and draw for also on him.

Edward James Smith and Co. to Christopher and George Champlin

St. Petersburg, the 11th July, 1788.

Gentlemen:

On the 27th past we had the Honour to waite upon you last with ample Advices about your Ship the *Elizabeth*, Captain Benjamin Peirce and the Goods to go by the same for your Account, which confirm and to which beg leave to refer. Herewith have the pleasure to advise, that said your Ship is intirely dispatched from hence and will sail with first fair Wind for Copenhagen.

Of the 40 Bundles Clean Hemp loaden by us for your Account we inclose hereby Bill of Loading and Invoice, amounting to Ro. 6346.47 Co. We have advanced Capt. Benjamin Peirce for the use of the Ship as per inclosed Receipt the Sum of Ro. 380. Of course our advances are vizt.

above Amount of Invoice		Ro. 6346.47.
and the Money furnished for Ships use		380.– –
to which comes yet		
Postage	Ro. 11.24.	
Commission and Brokerage of Drafts ¾ p Ct.	50.91.	62.15
	in all	Ro. 6788.62

for which we have debited your account; to ballance the same, we have drawn this day said Sum of Ro. 6788.62 Co. on our mutual Friend Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. at Copenhagen at 65 days date payable in Amsterdam, Exchange 33 Stuyvers holland Currency per Ruble making f. 11201.4 s. half Currency, wherewith closed your account and doubt not our Draft will meet with punctual honour; we beg you will note every thing with us in Conformity.

By the Dates of the Bills of Loading and Invoice you will please to observe we have dispatched Captain Peirce from Town the 8th Instant. We have given him that day a letter for you containing duplicate Bill of Loading and Invoice, to which we beg also to referr.

We flatter ourselves you will be satisfied with our management in all this piece of Business as Captain Peirce we

dare say is, and we hope to be favoured next year again with your worthy and welcome Commands assuring you of our utmost Care, Attachment and Attention to your Interest and being intirely devoted to the same, we subscribe with the greatest Regard and Esteem, Gentlemen: Your most obedient humble Servants

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO.

We shant fail to advise you when great alterations happen in the prices of Goods, at present none.

THOMPSON AND GORDON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Newry, 12 July, 1788.

Sir,

IT may not be unacceptable to inform you how our flax-seed market turn'd out, which proved a miserable one indeed, above 50 M hhds. arrived in this Kingdom, of which about 20 M hhds. remain on hand. our House sold about 4 M hhds. at 40/ and were fortunate enough to close so. what remains is now selling to the Oyl mills from 30/ to 34/ and demand sufficient for all that remains. when your quantity exceeds 35 M hhds. it ought not to stand you more than 40/ a hhd. Pot and Pearl ashes have both been demanded, and we have made considerable sales of each at 35/ prices will rate according to the quantity thrown in from America. We cou'd make ready sale of a Cargo of best Pot ashes, and doubtless produce for them as much as any other market wou'd, at present they are scarce. We sell and guarantee Debts at 4 per Ct., and on arrival shall advance half Value in London bills, remainder on sale, or by return of Vessell remit full value in Linen Cloth, which is very cheap. none can export the article on better terms, being situated in the center of the manufacture, neither loaded with carriage or factorage as those bought in London and Dublin are, and being confined to the sale of these articles on Commission have nothing to interfere. Barrell Staves serve best for Dennage, boat boards being 2d per foot square oak 80/ a

ton but no considerable quantity of either wou'd sell here, not exceeding forty Tons.

Remain Respectfully Your Obedient Servants

THOMPSON AND GORDON

Messrs. Lane Son and Frazer, London can satisfie you as to our House as can Mr. George Gibbs Newport.

ANTO. FR. THIRINGK TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburg, 28th July, 1788.

Gentlemen:

THIS day three weeks I had the honour of writing you by the post over England when provided you with Bills of Loading and Invoices of my Shipment by the Brig *Elizabeth*, Capt. Ben Peirce amounting to £558. Sterling which at the same time advised to have reimbursed myself for upon Mr. Nich. Ryberg at Copenhagen, which by this confirm and crave your kind referrance to.

Captain Peirce being sail'd on the 15th I hope he will have made Copenhagen road by this time, the winds having been fair ever since and having an opportunity of shipping to Mr. Ryberg I would not fail to inclose within the dupplicates of said Shipment by Captain Peirce and to inform you at the same time that our trade is become very dull within these ten days, by starting up the prices of most of our staple commodities, that of Hemp has advanced to Ro. 25½ to 26, Tallow to Ro. 34 to 35, and Flax to Ro. 38. the reason for these sudden risings may be attributed, to some of the winter speculatores falling short of the quantity of Hemp they had contracted for and which they are now under the necessity to supply from the market, besides several purchases being made for Ships that have dropt in of late. Tallow has advanced on account of the dry Season in England and of Flax we really fall short, a particular demand offering for the same from Scotland. how prices will rule

towards the close of our Navigation, and what further passes in trade, shall have the honour to keep you informd of at its time.

I have conversed with good Captain Peirce about the mode of stricking out a Line of business with your country and in particular upon those articles that may be imported from America to this country, but to my knowledge there are but few whereto any attention can be paid it be[tter] than Furrs Leather and Cotton. the former we import from England and this being second hand, I think might do best from your port. we chiefly do take black Canada Bear Skins, the lighter the better, Canada Fishers Skins, large Canada Racoon Skins and dark sprin[g] coney Skins, all to be well dressed when they will meet with a ready Sale. We get also from London Calf and Seal Skins besides Butts Leather and your Cattle being so good I should think this would become likewise an object worth reflecting provided the Leather is properly dressed. Cotton I hear is likewise to be got with you, in case the same is in any way like with that which comes from Smirna, it will do very well.

The quality of your Treacle or Molasses being unknown here, I would advise to have but a few Casks sent for tryal, like I would recommend to be rather limitted by sending Cotton, Indigo Coffe and Sugar, till these articles are first try'd and experience acquired for the future, a matter of about one thousand hundred weights English of good Rice in small Barrills would likewise do at a time. I inclose for your further speculation a List of our last Years Imports that was published but of late and at the fall shall give you my opinion, which articles may be the most promissing for next Season.

Recommanding myself to the continuance of your favours and friendship I remain most respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servant,

Anto. Fr. Thiringk

The opportunity by which this was intended to you having been detaind untill the 1st August, I find needful to add, that

the price of clean hemp has started up to Ro. 26¾ and is now held at Ro. 27. The taking of Trinconomale by the French affords great Speculations and many are of opinion that a war amongst the maritime powers is avoidable. I'll have the pleasure of writing you further at the fall.

William Willcocks to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son

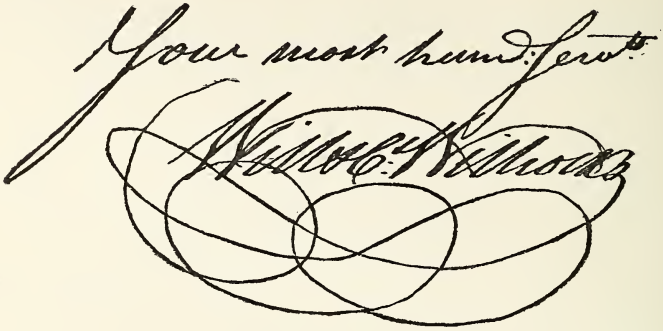
Cork, 1st August, 1788.

Gentlemen,

Annexed is Copy of what I had the pleasure of writing to you the 5th of April, the 18th of the same Month arrived the *Hannibal* which brought me a letter with bill of Lading for 100 Hhds. of Flaxseed shipt for your Account by Messrs. Hewes and Anthony, a few of which were damaged by Salt Water, but not much. Previous to the Ships arrival, I had collected information from Dublin and several parts of the North, where I fou'd there was as great a glut of Flaxseed if not greater than here, which determined me in landing yours, to avoid a greater loss and additional expence. I since engaged them at 40/ per hhd. and six months Credit. the price fell so rapidly that he drew away only a few, and seeks an abatement on the remainder, which I will not give him. Agreeable to order, as soon as I am in Cash I will remit the Net Proceeds to Messrs. Lane Son and Frazer, and Mr. Alexander Champion Junior, of London.

Pot Ashes have been a good article. I lately run off a parcel all at 37/ per Ct. Pearl Ashes are not much used in these parts. The *Polly* from Hudson, in the North River, arrived here about a fortnight ago with 127 barrels Pot Ashes and 60 M very good barrel Staves. the Pot Ashes sold at 33/ per Ct. and the Staves at £6.10. per M. a few days before arrived to me the Ship *Donnegal* from Baltimore with 150 M Hhd. and barrel Staves, and 429 barrels Tar. the Staves I have mostly sold at £6.12 to £6.16.6 the barrel, and £11 per M the Hhd. but am only offered 11/4½ per

barrel for the Tar. Oak plank and boards are worth about 16/. per 100 feet. I respectfully am, Gentlemen,



Benjamin Peirce to Christopher Champlin

Copenhagen, August 8th, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I THIS day arrived here after a passage of 13 days from St. Petersburg having procured the goods you order'd the Sail Cloth at 29/ Stlg. per piece the Hemp £22.15 Stlg. per ton, the Iron at £12.15 per ton all good in quality. have had a consultation with Mr. Saabye upon the article of Tea and shall determine in the morning whether I give the same price that Handy and Lawton give or not, if shou'd shall be soon after them if not you must not look for me 'till the last of November as the Sales are the 10th September. upon the whole I shall be governed by the judgement of Mr. Ryberg who I am sure is my friend. I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

BEN PEIRCE

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Sons

Dublin, 12th August, 1788.

Gentlemen,

HAVING none of your esteem'd favors unanswered, the present is to hand you Sales of the Flaxseed received per

the *Hope* Captain Wall. Neat proceeds when in Cash £1895.10.5 the one half whereof is carried to the Credit of your respective Accounts Current without my prejudice in case any of the outstanding debts proove bad; at same time lament truely this Adventure has not turn'd out more profitable to you, tho' think myself very fortunate that I got it all sold so soon as I did, the price having fallen the latter end of the Season down to 32/6, and a deal is left on hand both here and in all the out ports particularly at Derry and Newry; The Oil Mills in this Vicinity has bought up a good deal from 30/ and 32/ and now give £34/ 1½*d* per Hhd for it. upon the whole flater myself yours will turn out as well as your Neighbours and the Quantity I sold was much more then any other House here. Our Harvest promises a most abundant Crop of all kinds of Corn, of Flaxseed do not apprehend any will be saved; its impossible to form any Idea how this Article will rule next Season, the price always is govern'd by the Quantity that comes to Market, so that if there is an abundant Crop with you, you should buy it in proportion Cheap, and you may calculate the Consumption of this Kingdom to be 36,000 Hhds tho' believe from the Great Parliamentary Bounty given for sowing this Article, that nearer 40,000 Hhds were sown, and its expected the same Encouragement will be continued the ensueing Spring.

There is a bad Debt made on the Sales of your Seed last year. I have had the Man William Edgar in Geoal these 10 Months, I've now some prospect of geting his Father in Law to join in Security to pay half the debt in one, two and three years, all that prevents its being compleated is waiting to hear from a friend in the Country if he is a Solvent Man. I dont know what effect the War between Sweden and Rusia may have on the Politicks of the other European Powers, but if matters are not accommodated during the Winter I fear others will be brought into the Quarrell.

In the letter which I had the pleasure to write you the 4th of March I requested you to ship me Pot ashes of first quality for the proceeds of the Spermacitie Candles etc.

which you'l be so good as to attend to. I am most respectfully, Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

P. S. If the Northern Powers continue the War next Summer Your Naval Stores will be wanted; I think Pitch and Tar must answer if bought cheap. Pot ashes 34/ White Pearl ashes 33/ to 34/ per Ct. both of first Quality.

JOSEPH LAWRENCE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Providence, August 19th, 1788.

Sir,

I HAVE been apply'd to by one of the Committee for Building a Meeting house in Franklin (State of Massachusetts)[1] for 10 Boxes of 8 by 10 Window Glass, and Painters Colours sufficient to paint the same for which he offers to pay in good merchantable Flaxseed at the going price when he receives the Glass which he wants in September. if you have the Glass and Painters Colors and the pay will suit please to let me know by the boat. the price of Seed is not broke here a small Quantity has been brought in and sold at 3/6 and the last at 3/. I am Sir yours,

JOSEPH LAWRENCE

BENJAMIN PEIRCE TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Copenhagen, August, 20th, 1788.

Gentlemen,

I SAIL this day in company with Capt. Page. I have on board 40 tons clean hemp 300 pieces Sail Cloth, 45 do. Ravens duck 58 Chests Bohea, 2 Boxes Green Tea and 8½ tons of Iron as cargo which fills the *Elizabeth* full. there is a ballance of 16 Chests of tea due which will be shipp'd in the Ship *Hope* Capt. Jacob Westcot for providence. She will sail in all September. I am, Gentlemen, Your Obedient Servant

BEN PEIRCE

[1] See Blake, *History of Franklin*, 54.

SHIPP'D by the grace of God, in good order, and well-condition'd, by *Nicholas Ryberg*
in and upon the good *Brig* called the *Elisabeth Peirce*
whereof is master, under God, for this present voyage, *Benj Peirce*
and now riding at anchor in *Copenhagen road* and by God's grace bound for
Newport in Rhode Island to say

C G C
N. 1. 58. *Fifty Eight Chests Bohea Tea in Matts*
C G C *Three small Boxes Tea in Cloth*

being marked and numbered as in the margin, and to be delivered in the like good order, and well-condition'd, at the aforesaid port of *Newport* (the danger of the seas only excepted) unto *Christ. Geo Champlins Esqr*
or to ~~their~~ assigns, ~~he or~~ they paying freight for the said goods

Owners Goods

with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof, the master or purser of the said *Brig* hath affirmed to 4 bills of lading, all of this tenor and date; the one of which bills being accomplished, the other 3 to stand void. And so God send the good *Brig* to her desired port in safety. Amen. Dated in *Copenhagen 20th: aug.t 1788.*

Ben Peirce

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 29th August, 1788.

Sir,

I REFER you to my letter of the 12th instant via New York. Since received your always esteem'd of the 16th ulto. via Cork handing Sales of the Spermaceti Candles in which account you debit me £4.7.8½ ballance of Candles returned per Captain Sheffield out of my part of the Candles received for the ¼ of the Ship. in your and Messrs. Fowlers letter of 12 September (last,) you desire me for to charge Captain Sheffield with that Sum which I did with other Items and sent the account to his wife and if I recollect under cover and open to you fully persuaded the Amount or Ballance you would of course have received for me so that if you have repaid this Sum to her its against me having no property of his in my hands to have stopt that Sum and wrote her to pay the whole Amount as furnished into your and Mr. Fowlers hands — so that I think you should at least receive the same back. I made a mistake in debiting Mr. Ward Arnold and Vernon for the ¼ of the Copenhagen freight as Currency in place of British Money tho indeed your Letter was very explicit on this point. you have my thanks for settling my account so properly with Mr. Ward and have charged the other Gentlemen with the difference, and you have both my best thanks for your good Sales of the Candles as well as for the Settlement of that unfortunate Vessels accounts. In my letter of the 12th instant to you and Messrs. Fowlers I sent Sales of your Flaxseed per the *Hope* and tho there are some of the debts yet due shall take them all on myself to ease your minds and this post remitted Messrs. Lane Son and Frazer £110 Brit: which will nearly ballance your accounts, and by a ship to sail for New York in a few days your Account Current will be furnished. with respect to the unfortunate bad debt made on Sales of youre Neighbours, Mr. Handys Flaxseed, it was not my fault, for I did enquire the Mans Character before I delivered him the same and was inform'd he was safe and if your Seed has been

as clean and as well looking as youre Neighbours probably he would have had more of yours. My making this and another bad debt made me use every precaution possible this Spring and it gives me inexpressible pleasure on your and other friends Accounts that I am not likely to make any this year at least tho all is not received yet as I before wrote you I take them on myself and flatter myself upon a review of the whole of the Sales and bad debts they will appear as good and the bad ones as few as my Neighbours. If they do not turn out so I can only assure you its not my fault convinced no man endeavours to do more in every sense of the word to serve his friends than I do. were the property my own I could not do more. I am told that in consequence of a bad debt made for Mr. Gibbs that he has got Mr. Norris to guarantee the Sales of his goods. if you desire it I shall do yours on the like terms. I know two Years ago a Gentlemen who had Flaxseed consigned him from New York was so unlucky as to have made two or three heavy ones and his friends afterwards agreed to allow him 4 per cent. Commission and for insuring debts this Commission he tells me he has charged ever since and I can have no objection to act by you and other friends as my Neighbours do; and then you'll be on a certainty that the produce of your goods will be secured.

The bad debt made on your Sales by Thomas Dungan who was robb'd I expect a dividend next November it will be about 15*d* per pound. I cannot help it as you mentioned Mr. Handys name to say that he has treated me very ungenerously after the promise [his] Son made me of punctual Remittance. I sent his account to Messrs. Russells of Providence as I knew one [of] their Daughters married his Son, so I thought they would have been more likely to influence him to remit me. its such behaviour sours Men from assisting their friends and tends to destroy confidence between Man and Man. I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant

EDWARD FORBES

Edward James Smith and Co. to Christopher and George Champlin

St. Petersburg, the 5th September, 1788.

Gentlemen:

It was the 21st July we had the Pleasure to write you last, when we chiefly advised that your Brig the *Elizabeth*, Captain Benjamin Peirce was sailed from hence for Copenhagen. We have got now lately the News from our mutual Friend Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. of Copenhagen, that said your Brigg is not only dispatched there, but sailed also from thence, of which doubt not our mutual Friend has advised you. We have likewise very gladly observed in the Sound Lists he is safely passed Elsineur and we hope will be safe arrived with you before receipt of this, which we heartily wish, and then we flatter ourselves the Hemp we shipt for your account will give satisfaction, also as Capt. Peirce was satisfied with our Management, that we shall have the honour of executing all your Commands at this place in the next year, for which purpose we recommend ourselves in your favours and Friendship, requesting to be assured of our utmost Endeavours for your Interest and to merit the Continuance of your Commands. The inclosed for Captain Benja Peirce beg to deliver. By his Recommandation we dispatched from hence a Brig the *Hope*, commanded by Captain Benjamin Page belonging to Messrs. Brown and Francis of Providence, and upon a Letter of Credit supplied this Captain with what Goods he wanted from hence for account said Gentlemen; But as this Captain did not take his full Cargo here and wanted yet Goods from Copenhagen, for which he had no Credit with him, we furnished him with a Letter of Credit for that purpose on our Friend N. Ryberg Esqr. and recommended said Gentleman to provide Captain Page with the Goods he might want, which has been done to the Amount of £1050. Sterling, for which said Captain passed his Drafts upon his Owners Messrs. Brown and Francis at Providence Rhode Island, at 6 Months date in favour of our Friends Messrs. John

William Anderson and Co. payable in London. Mr. Ryberg acquaints us of having sent you said Draft to procure the acceptance and domiciliation and afterwards to forward it Messrs Anderson and Co. of London; also that he forwarded through your hands the Bills of Loading and Invoices for which this Draft is passed and desired you in case the Draft should not be properly accepted to take in your possession the Goods and to dispose of them for our account remitting afterwards the Net proceeds to said our London Friends. We hope all these precautions will have proved unnecessary, as we gott the best intelligence about the Solidity and Character of Messrs. Brown and Francis, and as no doubt these Gentlemen will be well known to you, we beg you will kindly interfere with them in our favour for their further Business at this Place, in which you will greatly oblige us, also our mutual Friend N. Ryberg Esqr. of Copenhagen, whom we recommend them for their Business at that place.

Clean Hemp is now already as high as Ro. 29 per Berkowitz, Outshott or 2d Sort Ro. 25, and half clean or 3rd Sort Ro. 24, 12 heads white Flax Ro. 39 and 40, — all monstrous high prices, and whether they will be as high next year or how they are likely to be, is not possible to judge as yet, but we shall not fail to advise you in its time how the first Contracts will open, also to provide you at the close of shipping with a List of the Goods exported from hence to America. Sail Cloth from Ro. 7 to Ro. 11½ Ravenducks Ro. 8¼ to ½, Flems Ro. 12¼ to 12½ per piece, Drillings 20½ to 21 Co. per arsheen, Candle Tallow from Ro. 33 to Ro. 35, and Soap Tallow from Ro. 26 to 30 per Berkowitz, but no good Tallow more at Market. The prices of Iron stand, old Sable from 123 to 125 Co., new Sable from 115 to 120 Co. per pd, the assorted sorts in proportion to their demensions dearer. We are in all your Commands most respectfully, Gentlemen: Your most obedient humble Servants,

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO.

Amsterdam 33 to 32¾*s*. London 34 to 33¾*d*.

Memorandum [1]

Memorandum upon what conditions Chris: Champlin will furnish Messrs. Lawson, Price and Co. with Sundry articles for Equiping and putting to Sea their new Schooner now in this Harbour, vizt.

For Russha Duck, Ravens Duck and Cordage, Barr Iron, for the Smith, Provisions, including every other Article where money is paid either to Tradesmen, Labourers, Capt. and Seamen, Clearing at the Custom house etc. shall be considered as Solid Coin, which said Price and Co. shall stipulate to pay said Champlin or his order in Solid Coin at Charleston South Carolina, by the Fifteenth of January, 1789, or in Rice at the Market Price at said Charleston, on January 15th, 1789, Allowing and Creditting said Champlin in Account with the difference of Exchange between the paper Currency of said Charleston, Carolina, and Solid Coin, provided the Amount is paid in Rice. But for the Amount of such parts of Tradesmens Bills and all other articles furnished for said Equipment without money being paid, said Champlin will receive of said Price and Co., at said Charleston on January 15th, 1789, in good Rice at the Market price for which said Price and Co. must stipulate to pay.

A Commission of three per Cent must be allow'd said Champlin upon the Advance for contexting with the different persons — collecting, paying, and adjusting — the whole Accounts. A like Commission of three per Cent said Price Co. agrees to charge said Champlin upon any Merchandize which said Champlin may ship to their Address also they agree to charge said Champlin three per Cent upon any Merchandize which they may purchase and ship for his Account at Charleston aforesaid.

Newport, September 18th, 1788.

N. B. Shoud said Champlin ship to our adress at Charleston per our new Schooner aforesaid, it is agreed the Freight thereof shall be at one Silver Dollar per Hhhd.

Lawson Price and Co.
Chris. Champlin

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

Voght and Sieveking to Christopher Champlin

Hamburg, the 7 October, 1788.

Sir,

Favored with your much esteemed of the 22d July, we have the pleasure to wait on you with the desired information relating to the East india Cotton wool.

This article may be imported here without any restraint, but as the Cotton trade commonly depends on the Wool imported from Smirna and there adjaicent quarters, which together with the West india Cotton generaly supply the European Manufactures, we find them from East india to be little known. However parcels of whatever consequence may be run off at a price adequate to quality compared with the Smirna Cotton. Here a parcel of Surate Wool was imported some Years ago, the quality of which was like to the inferior Smirna Cotton, and then sold at 22 to 24*d*, Smirna Cotton of common quality standing at the same price. This price since rose up, and is now at 27. to 28*d*. but with appearance of a fall again, demand having remarkably relapsed some Time since. Thus it appears that the East india Wool alike in quality to the common Smirna, such as the above mentioned might fetch between 24 and 27*d* Banco a li, with $8\frac{2}{3}$ per Ct. Discount, any unforeseen revolution excepted. This price of 24 to 27*d* is equal Exchange at 35 Shil. a £ sterling, to $12\frac{5}{8}$ to $14\frac{3}{16}$ pence Sterling a pound.

Inclosed a performa Account Sales, which will further enable you to make an exact Calculation. You will easily conceive that without seeing the quality of the Wool, we cannot be fully possitif to the price, but what we said will be sufficient to give you an Idea of the market. We may add that ours must allways offer better Sales then the Dutch, as this place is nearer to provide the Northern manufactories, which are our constant Customers, and this article will allways command a ready sale in as much as the price of what you send can sustain an equality with the Cottons before mentioned. Depend upon our activity and care for your interest, and remain fully assured that they will be managed to the best advantage possible.

We are sorry to have been deprived of your worthy commands ever since your Brigg *Richmond* Captain Green was here. It would aford us a deal of pleasure to see you dispose of our Services on more frequent Ocasions.

Tobaccos allways command a current sale; prices running at 3 to 3½/ the common young Maryland, sound brown 3¾ to 4¼/ colored 4½ to ¾/. Yellow 5 to 5½/. fine yellow 6/. sweet scent 3½ to 5/. according to quality. Hemp is in demand; Petersburg clean 71 to 72 M. Outcast 65 to 66 M. half clean 61 to 62 M. per 280 li. Tea Bohea 14¼ to ½, with some apearance of rising. Further particulars please to be referred to the inclosed Price current. We most respectfully remain, Sir, Your most obedient and humble Servants

VOGHT AND SIEVEKING

[Endorsed,] Per Captain Whippy.

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

St. Petersburg, the 28th November, 1788.

Gentlemen:

ON the 5th September we had the honour to waite upon you last, and at large; all which confirm and are in expectation of your kind reply, hoping the Draft of Captain Benjamin Page for £1050 upon Messrs. Brown and Francis at Providence has been duely accepted and forwarded to London before receipt of this. We also hope to hear soon, that Captain Benjamin Peirce is safe arrived with you and flatter ourselves, the Hemp sent you by him has given Contentment as likewise that we shall be honoured with your worthy Commands next year, in which you may depend on our utmost Endeavours for your Interest and to gain your satisfaction. Herewith take the Liberty to waite upon you with List of this years Exports by British and American Ships for your Amusement and Speculations, and as soon as the general Exports are to be had shall not fail to provide you with it.

Since the 6th Instant our Rivers are shutt up with Ice. In

Trade and Contracts of Russ Goods not very brisk yet; The price of Clean Hemp on Contract stands at Ro. 20½ with all the Money down now, and at Ro. 22½ with Ro. 2½ per Berkowitz beforehand the Hemp deliverable in June and July next; For Clean Hemp remaining after shipping and laying on the Spot is paid Ro. 23½ per Berkowitz and all the Money now. If any stronger demand should appear, it is very likely the prices may rise. Twelve heads Flax has been bought on Contract at Ro. 29, with all the Money beforehand, but no more Sellers at this price. Of the other Sorts Hemp and Flax cannot be said any thing as no purchases nor offers have been made yet. For Candle Tallow on Contract is paid Ro. 35 and for Soap Tallow Ro. 31 per Berkowitz all the Money beforehand. Of Yellow Wax, Wax and Tallow Candles no prices yet. Old Sable Iron from 130 Co. to 133 Co. and new Sable Iron from 118 to 125 Co. per pood. We have here no Manufactory Goods left at Market after shipping. New Supplies will come by Sledge Way, but no prices to be noted. it is however not to be expected they will be lower as the last at Shipping which have been for Flems from Ro. 11 to 12½, for Ravenducks from Ro. 8 to 9 per piece, for Drillings from 19 to 21 Co. per arsheen for broad plain Linnen from Ro. 120 to Ro. 180, for narrow plain Linnen from Ro. 80 to 95, for broad Diaper from Ro. 110 to 125, and for narrow Diaper from Ro. 85 to 95, for Crash Ro. 42 to 50, all per 1000 arsheens. Of Sail Cloth we have 7300 pieces at Market of sundry sorts, the last prices have been from Ro. 8 to 11 per piece. how the prices of all these Linnens and Manufactory Goods may be when we gett supplies and against and during next year, is not possible to tell, but hardly to be expected lower than the above mentioned. We shall not fail to waite upon you with our further Advices. in the mean time recommend ourselves in the Continuances of your Favours and Friendship and remain in all your Commands most respectfully, Gentlemen, Your most obedient humble Servants,

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO.

Amsterdam 31 to 31¼*s*. London 32 to 32¼*d*.

The inclosed for Captain Benjamin Peirce beg to deliver with our best Compliments.

Edward James Smith and Co. to Christopher and George Champlin

St. Petersburg, the 16th February, 1789.

Gentlemen:

We had the honour to waite upon you last the 28th November last year the Contents of which confirm and beg leave to refer to.

Last British mail brought us your much esteemed Favour of the 15th December last with Copys of your Letter to our mutual Friend Nicholas Ryberg Esqr. at Copenhagen, and of the acceptance made by Messrs. Brown and Francis at Providence upon the Drafts for £1050. Sterling of Captain Benjamin Page on them; We have duely observed all you please to mention with regard this Business as well in your Letter to said our Copenhagen Friend, as in that to us. We are very sorry for the Trouble you have had with this Affair, and not only approve intirely your management and the care for our Interest, but beg you will also accept of our sincerest thanks for all; we hope the acceptance of Messrs. Brown and Francis will be punctually respected by Peter Whiteside Esqr. at London, and in its time the Money paid there to our Friends Messrs. John William Anderson and Co. of whom expect by the next mail their Advice and whether the Drafts are accepted by P. Whiteside Esqr., by which then every thing will run off in good order.

It gives us much pleasure to observe in your favour, the Hemp we sent you last year by Captain Benjamin Peirce reached you in good condition, has given satisfaction and is come to a good Market. We flatter ourselves to give you allways the same in any Commands you will please to favour us with, as also that Captain Peirce will come next summer to our house and we shall have to execute all your Commands per your Brig the *Elizabeth*, which we observe you are preparing sending out again; You may depend, we shall observe

your Interest in every respect as our own, as nothing gives us more pleasure than serving our Friends to their satisfaction to which we spare no pains nor trouble of which we hope Captain Peirce has fully convinced you. We are glad our Advices of Trade have been of Service and we shall not miss continuing giving you the same further from time to time. Herewith for your Curiosity and Speculations a List of last years Exports from hence by American and British ships, also a List of general Exports. And as to the prices of Russ Goods, great Quantities of Iron are bought up; old Sable Iron from 130 to 135 Copecks and new Sable from 118 to 125 Co. per pood; the assorted Iron of each sort, is according to their Dimensions dearer in proportion. Clean Hemp on Contract deliverable in June and July next, stands now at Ro. 20 per Berkowitz with all the Money beforehand, and at Ro. 21½ with Ro. 2 per Berkowitz down the remainder on delivery. If no great demands from Great Britain should come, which according to present circumstances seems not to be the case, this article won't rise and in summer then to be expected not higher, if not lower. however much will depend what turn political affairs may take, as yet not to be said, whether Peace will be in the Baltic Sea. Outshott and half clean Hemp are much demanded, and contracted for France above their proportion to the Clean; Outshott at Ro. 19½ all the Money and half clean on the same condition at Ro. 18½, and the former at Ro. 20½ with Ro. 5, and the latter at Ro. 19½ with Ro. 4½ per Berkowitz beforehand. Flax is also in great demand and on Contract paid 12 heads with Ro. 36 all money and Ro. 39 with Ro. 3 per Berkowitz down. Bristles first sort contracted last at Ro. 16½ per pood all Money advanced, Tarred Cordage will not be had next Summer under Ro. 2.80 Co. per pood. All Linnens and Manufactory Goods not cheap expected next shipping season, as there is paid for Goods of midling qualities on the spot, vizt. for Flems Linnen Ro. 12½ and Ravenducks Ro. 8.90 Co. to Ro. 9, Sail Cloth from Ro. 8 to 11 per piece, Drillings at 21 Co. per arsheen; broad plain Linnen from Ro. 120 to Ro. 180, nar-

row from Ro. 81 to 95, broad Diaper from Ro. 128 to 130, narrow from Ro. 88 to 90, and Crash from Ro. 45 to 55, all per 1000 arsheens. When this reaches you most surely Captain Peirce will be saild, think it needless to write him and hope to see him in our house next Summer. Recommending ourselves in the Continuance of your Friendship, we remain very respectfully, Gentlemen: Your most Obedient Humble Servants,

EDWARD JAMES SMITH AND CO.

Amsterdam 31*s*. London 31$\frac{7}{8}$*d*.

We find you have got already the Exportations by American and British ships, of course only herewith the general Exports. Messrs. Brown and Francis have not wrote us yet.

SAMUEL SPRAGG FOR PATRICK JEFFREY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, 19th February, 1789.

Sir,

I DUELY received your favor of the 26th November last via Ireland, and in consequence I applied to Mr. Douce, who informs me, the Money for your Claim is paid in to the Accountant General of the Bank hands, and invested in the 3 per Ct. Consols, bearing an interest of 3 per Ct. from the time it was ordered in by the Chancellor, which he thinks is about 6 years ago, so that you will receive an interest from that time, but the sum is not absolutely fixed, so as to tell you with a certainty. the greater part of the Lawyers bill paid will be returned you; when the Cause of the different Claimants is tryed at Comon Law, which am told by one of the Attorneys claiming will be heard the Sitting after the present term, of which he will inform me, when this is settled it will be referred back to the Master in Chancery to settle the whole with the Costs, which apprehend will cause a delay of receiving what you may be entitled to full 12 months longer; respecting any further charge in the matter of Law, there will arise some but not much; but what

can't say, which will be fully compensated when the Master ascertains the accounts. You will not be any more money out of pocket. I truely wish could afford you greater satisfaction, but really cannot be done at present; it shall have my due attention, and when settled and received you may depend shall advise you; I feel myself much obliged in your intentions of investing what may be received in articles you may order.

Inclosed is your Account Current made up to the 31st december last Balance due to me £88.0.9 is placed to your debit in a new account and doubt not you will find right and am with due respect, Your most Humble Servant

Sam'l Spragg
per procuration from Patrick Jeffrey

[Endorsed,] Per Capt. Barnard via Boston.

Moses M. Hays to Christopher Champlin

Boston, February the 23d, 1789.

Dear Sir,

I should have replied to your favor of the 21st Ulto. before this, had you not apprised me, that you was not in haste on the subject, for I could as well at that moment given you my sentiments as now, on the articles that I presume will best accommodate such a Vessell as you speak of, and not endanger an over stock of the Market.

10 Hhds good Tobacco
30 Casks Rice
5M Pipe
5M Barrell } Staves best white oak.
5M Hhds
Some small Sparrs and Merchantable Boards for Dunnage.
Spermaceti Candles are inadmissable.
100 Barrells Naval Stores.
800 Kentalls good merchantable dry Fish, well cured and dry.
30 Barrells beef. No Pork.
10 Kegs Hogs Lard
1000 C. Tried Tallow.
4 Tons Pot ashes.

American oyl, we are told, and I believe with Certainty is at present prohibited in France. Indeed all foreign oyls; but

if the Importation was free, that Article never affords much advantage. I cannot with propriety recommend any particular Port for a market for you, but presume Lorient or any of the Free Ports would be most illegible.

Bayonne is a market that would not promise you much Advantage, it is a small Port, its Inhabitants chiefly Fisherman and very little frequented. If I receive any advices that indicate any thing worth your Notice will inform you, and am with Regard, Dear Sir, Your most obedient Humble Servant

M. M. Hays

N. E. Rum sells 1/6 and perhaps 1/5½ per Gn.
Bohea Tea, 1/7 per lb. 4 Months Credit.

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin and Samuel Fowler and Son [1]

Dublin, 25th February, 1789.

Gentlemen,

The above is copy of my letter of the 30th Ulto. It gives me great concern to inform you the *Hope* owing to the insufficiency of her Cables, which she parted, was drove on a Sand Bank in Poolbeg and tho' she has got off apparently without much damage yet she must go into Dock to be examined and get such repairs as may be necessary. She came to the Quay yesterday and will have the remainder of her Cargo discharged as soon as possible and Messrs. Fowlers may be assured she shall be dispatch'd with all expedition, but the expence of New Cables, etc., will come heavy. very luckily the Insurance was effected as the Underwriters will bear a part thereof. Have commenced Sales of the Flaxseed at 44/. to 45/6 per Hhd. at which price hope if we have not an overglut to sell the remainder; There are two Vessels missing from Newyork bound here which has given some of the Holders more Courage, for there has been a quantity sold as low as 42/. Newyork Seed; Depend I will act in

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

the Sale of yours to the best of my Judgement. I am Gent., Your mo : humble Servant,

Edw'd Forbes

[Endorsed,] Per *Two Brothers* via Philadelphia.

Clark and Nightingale to Christopher Champlin

Providence, March 4, 1789.

Dear Sir,

Your favour of the 24th ulto. did not reach us till last evening when we immediately sent your letter to Captain Graves; but he being out of town can give no answer to that part of your letter till he returns which we expect will be the last of the week. the articles you propose in barter for New England rum will not suit in payment, as they are to be had on rather better terms here, and indeed do not find so quick a market as the rum, which at this season appears in demand.

We have set up a new Manufactory of Geneva should you be in want of any of this article for your trade to the Westward, we should be glad to supply you with some equal to any imported. So soon as Captain Graves returns we will again apply to him and let you know the result thereof by the first opportunity. we are in the mean time, Sir, Your most Obedient Servants,

Clark and Nightingale

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 4th April, 1789.

Sir,

I am this moment favored with your always esteem'd of the 17th February per Captain Wood with Bill Ladeing for 169 Hhds Flaxseed, which I shall dispose of to best advantage, and if I find it will yeild more in Newry then here will send the whole or a part there. Have already sold near 2000 Hhds from 43/6 to 45/6, but the arrival of the *William* and three others expected from New-York will overstock this Market I fear. I followed your reccom-

mendation in selling as fast as I could and think it has turn'd out lucky for you and other friends that I did so.

At Newry the Price have been pritty much the same as here, yet I fear it will be overstockt likewise, at Derry price is 40/ to 42/6. Belfast it has broke at 42/6 to 44/ and at Cork little yet sold I hear. Your letter will be forwarded to Bristol this nights Post and will write the Gentlem[a]n there what you desire. I remitted Lane and Co. £400 your account exchange $8\frac{1}{8}$ is £432.10/ at your debit. The Bearer is bound for Newyork, is cleard out and sails in an hour, which prevents my sending your Linens by him. had I got Captain Woods letters last night your Linens would have been sent by this conveyance. I remain with great regard, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

[Endorsed,] Per *Revolution*, via New York.

SAMUEL RODMAN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

N. Bedford, 5 month, 19th, 1789.

Respected Friend, Christopher Champlin,

AGREEABLE to the encouragement I gave thee, at my leaving Nport, I embrace the first opportunity that has presented, since my geting here and my brother's return from Boston, to acquaint thee that, we shall not have occasion for the Hemp upon the terms, thou offer'd it. As we have a sufficiency on hand to supply our demand, until we can furnish ourselves from Europe.

Thou hast no doubt received information by the late London arrivals, that, that Article can or could be had there at the time the Ships saild, at £30 per Ton, which with the draw back, will reduce it to about £27. Its lower than we expected it would be, probably owing to the great quantities that have been stor'd, to qualify that provident government to take a part in the European War, should their treaties impel that Measure. The apprehension of which having subsided for the present, its now selling perhaps as low as the Russia price.

Should'st thou wish a bill for Specie, my brother William Rotch, Junior will draw, for £100 Sterling or 2400 Livres 60 days at par, which thou may have by applying to him here, which will be a more speedy [way] of geting it than through our house at Nantucket. With much respect, I am Sir, Thy Assurd friend,

SAMUEL RODMAN

TILLEY AND MILLER TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

New London, June 15th, 1789.

Sir,

YOUR favour of the 9th Inst. wee have received covering Capt. Culver Receipt's for Twenty four Certificates signd Oliver Wolcott amount One hundred and Sixty three pounds Seven shillings and five pence L. Money, also for five Chests Bohea Tea. Your orders respecting the Certificates will be attended to, but are sorry to advise that wee were under the Nessisity of refusing to receive the Tea as by misconduct it was damaged as by the inclosed Certificate will appear. wee withold Culvers Bill Loading untill he makes his Peace with you. at the same time your future orders resspecting this matter shall be duly attended to. the Tea I indulged Culver to put in our Store for separating the damaged, where it now remains on his Account. Wee are Your Most humble Servants,

TILLEY AND MILLER

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dublin, 3d August, 1789.

Sir,

MY last Respects was the 6th April via N. York with Invoice of a Box Linens addressed Messrs. Murray, Mumford and Bowen which I find had arrived there. Since I received your Favour of the 28th March advising your draft in favour of Captain Benj. Pierce for £170 Eng. which is placed to your Debit, as is £200 English remitted Messrs. Protheroe and Claxton Bristol, likewise £100 remitted this day to Messrs. Lane, Son and Frazer. Inclosed is Sales of your

Flaxseed per the *William* Capt. Wood neat proceeds when in Cash £230.11.9 at your Credit. I also credit you for ⅔ds Proceeds of Flaxseed per the *Hope* £1083.15.8. you have likewise herein your Account Current. Ballance in your favour £26.2.6 is carried to your New Account holding you accountable in case any of the outstanding Debts shou'd prove bad. the seed sold Jno. Classon for Oil is not payable till the end of October, so that I am in advance for you which I don't mind as I think the Debts will prove good. I was very cautious indeed of the Persons I dealt with. I averaged your Seed per Captain Wood with the General Sales tho' did not sell for so much, and it will give me very great pleasure if my Sales meet your Approbation, as I assure you I made every [effort] in my power for the Interest of my Friends. The Settlement of the g[eneral] Averige on the *Hope's* Cargo with Copy of Protest shall be sent Lane Son and Co. as they wrote me they made Insurance on your Part of her Cargo. you'll therefore have to pay Messrs. S. Fowler and Son your Part thereof.

You demand my best Thanks for the Trouble you have had with my very unlucky Concern in the *Fame*, the Ashes proved very good have debited your private Account with the little ballance of 9/4 and assure yourself shou'd I ever have any Business to do in your place I shall trouble you therewith and no other Person, and it will give me Pleasure on all occasions to serve you or your Friends, and am with great Regard and Esteem, Sir, Your most obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

P. S. I debit your new account £6.15.9 for your Proportion of ship *Hope's* General Averige on the Cargo.

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND SAMUEL FOWLER AND SON

Dublin, 3 August, 1789.

Gentlemen,

INCLOSED you have Sales of the Ship *Hope's* Cargo of Flaxseed Neat proceeds £1625.13.6 which is carried to the Credit

of your respective accounts, holding you accountable shou'd any of the Debts prove bad, which I do not expect looking upon all very safe as I was very cautious about whom I trusted. the few that remained I sold to a proprietor of one of the Oil Mills payment 3 Months at 36/ per hhd. which I thought better to do than keep in expectation of getting more for. there is about 2500 hhds left on hands and am apprehensive will not fetch more. I fully expected at the beginning of the Sales I should have averiged your Seed at above 43/ per hhd. but a much greater Quantity having arrived than was expected the Price fell rapidly, which affected the Sales at Drogheda and other out ports. However upon the whole, flatter myself I did full as well as my Neighbours, tho' I sold double the Quantity of any one here and at the end had only 97 hhds — the refuse of all left. Assure yourselves I m[ade every] exertion [to pr]omote the Interest of my Employers in the Sales, w[hich] make me very happy to hear meets your Approbation.

The continued Rains we have had ever since the beginning of July, has greatly injured the Crop of Flax, no Seed will be saved, which makes me hope more will be sown next year and the article prove more profitable than it has done this, indeed the Seed in general was very faulty and badly cleaned. Your Accounts are credited your proportion of the dividend coming from the Estate of Thos. Dungan £2.2.4 each. as to Wm. Edgars Debt it is total Loss. having sworn himself not worth a Groat, he got the Benefit of the insolvent Act and was liberated from Gaol. I have debited Messrs. Fowler and credited Mr. Champlins Account for the difference in the Freight of Flaxseed per the *Hope* £19.19.5. I remain with great Regard and Esteem, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

Prices Current.

first Pot Ash 29/
" Pearl. 38 to 40/ but expected lower when new arrives.
" Spermaceti Oil, fine white sort and free from smell and sediment 4/ a Gallon.
" Common Whale Oil . . . . £17 per Ton. } Duty on all
" Cod or Liver Oil . . . . . £20 per do. } oils 18s per
" Seal Oil . . . . . 2/3 to 2/6 per Gallon } Ton only.

Rice . . . . . 24/ per Ct. Duty 8 per Ct.
Beeswax . . . . . 18*d* per lb.
Winter Deer Skins in hair . . . . 22*d* per lb.
Carrolina Indigo Copper . . . . 3/ to 4/6 per lb. as in Quality.
French . . . . . 6 to 7/6 per do.
Tar 11/ to 12/ per Barrel Pitch 13/ to 14/ per Barrel.
Red Oak Bark £4.6 per Ton.
Newyork and Philadelphia Barrel Staves £5.10 to £5.13.9.

Lanchon Frères et Cie to Christopher Champlin[1]

L'Orient, 15 Mais, 1790.

Sir,

The effect of our late glorious revolution, Operating on Commerce as well as politicks, and some material Changes having already taken place in consequence; We embrace this as a favorable moment to renew our respects, and acknowledgments, to our Correspondents at large, when we can have any interesting information to give them, as well concerning the general trade of the Kingdom, as what relates to this port in particular, whose superior Advantages justly entitle it to a preference over others, from its Vicinity to the main Ocean, the Convenience and safety of its harbour, and the trifling Charges Vessels are liable to on entry, as mentioned in our Price Current which we annex for your information and government.

The Changes we have to announce are,

The Suppression of our East India Company,

The Abolition of the freedom of this Port, and,

The Emission of Government notes.

The first met with much Opposition, but was notwithstanding Decreed; so that the trade to India is now laid Open, to the general benefit of the Nation, and we think the particular advantage of this town, which, joining to its other Conveniences, that of having the proper Warehouses and offices compleatly established, and the face of that trade already turned towards it, must command a preference, and continue the fixed mart for the sale of East India Goods,

[1] A printed circular letter.

which we presume will be more reasonable in future than heretofore.

The Abolition of the Freedom of this Port met with less Opposition, as it was a measure sought for by the inhabitants, who found it only served as an encouragement to smuging, to the prejudice of the fair Trader, whose intercourse with the rest of the Kingdom was restrained, as no article that once came into the town, could return by land, or be received at any other of our ports, without paying duties, as tho' the town were foreign; and here we must observe, lest an Idea should go abroad to the contrary, that the taking away this freedom does not at all prejudice our trade with America your Resident at our Court was consulted on the Business, and nothing being altered respecting the treaty of 1778, our intercourse with you will be carried on as usual, without any encrease of duties or Charges, the only difference is the Goods must now be as it were Bonded.

The Emission of Government Notes, or Assignats as they are called, was to supply the want of the Circulation of Specie, which was either hoarded up by the monied people, or sent out of the Kingdom from interested Motives, to the great prejudice and even Stagnation of trade; the amount is limited to four hundred millions of livres, and they are so much preferable to Bank Notes, that they bear interest at the rate of 3 p$^{0}_{0}$. p. An. are equally transferable, being payable to Bearer, and are guarantied by, and to be paid from, a property of above eight hundred millions, late belonging to the Clergy, and wich is now on sale.

Our illustrious National Assembly, to perfect the great work it has begun, has many other improvements in agitation, one in particular, to fix a common standard for Weights and Measures, in which the Cooperation of England is sought for; but these are the most interesting Changes that have as yet taken place; there is however another in the restrictions they laboured under, being taken off the Tanneries; Soap, and Starch manufactories, which tho, seemingly of little consequence to you, we mention, in the hope that it may encrease our Connection with your states, by

Opening a new Branch of Commerce, in the exportation of Bark, Green-hides, Tallow, and Kelp, if those articles abound with you; it may also encrease the Consumption of Fish Oil, which, as well as Whale, are at present of very slow demand, owing to the quantities Imported last season, and every Port being over stocked, Whale bone is likewise slack from the same reason, but Pot and Pearl Ashes on the contrary are in high demand, nor can we get enough for the Consumption; Tabacco, Rice, Wheat, Flour, and good Ship timber are also good articles here, and we hope next season your flax seed will sell currently, as essays have been made this year, and the last; but your provisions, Pitch, Tar, or Turpentine, have not as yet recovered the disrepute they fell into by being badly made up, very foul, and short in weight.

After this detail which we hope will not be unacceptable, it only remains for us to express the ardent wish we form, that in this new arrangement of things, and from the regulations which we understand are taking place in your Constitution; the result may insure the freedom and happiness of each, and perfectly cement the union of both Countries; in this wish, and one for your particular prosperity, with reiterated offers of service, to wich we beg leave to add those of our house in Havre, we remain truly and Sincerely, Sir, Your Obedient humble Servants,

LANCHON FRÈRES ET CIE

COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION

Providence, January 12, 1790.
12 oClock A.M.

Gentlemen,

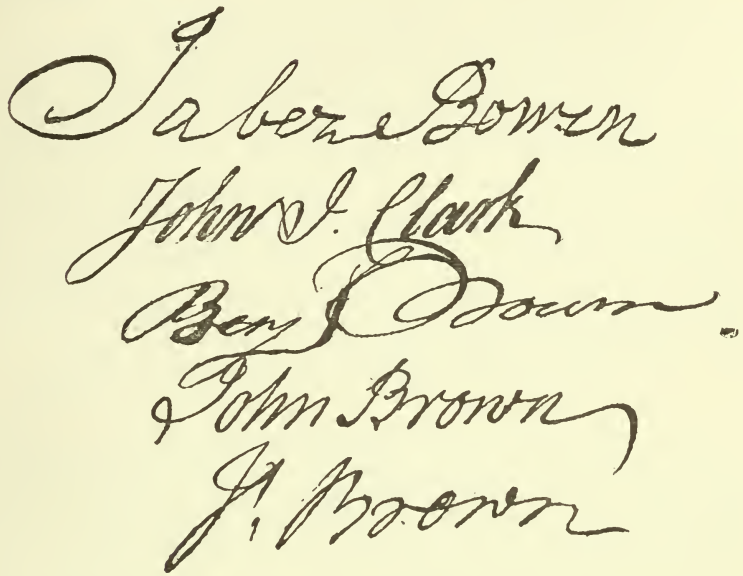
WE have not as yet made a Lower house and are doubtfull wheather we shall 'till tomorrow.

We are informed that Messrs. Haszard Champlin and Til. Almey of the Lower house, and Joseph Tweedy Esqr. of the Upper house, are not like to attend this Session. We think we can carry the Question for a Convention if the

above Gentlemen attend in season; if not we are afraid all will be lost.

We hope you will not omit any Exertions to get the above Gentlemen to come on so as to be hear on Thursday Forenoon; on which day we expect the important Question will be taken.

We are Gentlemen with Esteem your most Humble Servants,



To Messrs. Christopher Champlin and Geo. Gibbs.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Cape françois, February 13th, 1790.

Sir,

This will give you the earliest Information of my arrival which was on the 5th of this month, meeting with no material accident on my passage but had very hard Southerly winds untill I past bermudas. on my arrival I enquired particular into the merchants characters here and found I could not connect myself with a better than the house of Forrest where I have accordingly fixed, giving him 5 per Cent on the Grose

Sales of my Cargo. They have keept the duty on fish untill yesterday. I made matters very easy and did not enter a single fish but gave the Searchers six Joes to keep clear of [m]e. You would be surprized was you here to see how exceedingly the markets are fluctuated with Provisions, Beef and pork, in a particular manner with flour and fish. Not a Store but what is fill'd with those articles. There is about fifty Sail of american Vessels now lying here and others arriving daily. this day a Vessel arriv'd of the harbour with a load of flour, but I dont think she will come in. I have here inclos'd a price current as likewise a copy of what part of my Cargo is already sold. I am in hopes that flour and mackerel will be in better demand in a few days, and expect that molasses will fall from the present price it now sells for, as it begins to grow more plenty. I shall make the greatest dispatch I possibly can to get away from here, and shall write you more minutely of my departure by Capt. Hicks who sails in a fortnight for Newport while I remain, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant

BEN: BAILEY

P. S. Yesterday Capt. Read of Providence arriv'd from Martinico with part of his Cargo, who informs me that markets are much lower there than at Cape françois.

I hurry'd the sales of my dry fish, more on account of the hogsheads being very damp, owing to the Staves being not season'd.

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Cape françois, February 23d, 1790.

Sir,

THIS comes by Capt. Bernard of Newyork, to advise you of my proceedings since I wrote by Capt. Simmons of Providence. I began my loading on the 20th of this month with 14 Hhds of molasses, purchased at 55 Souce per Velt delivered along side, on the 21st took in 30 Hhds. purchas'd at 52 Souce per Velt at the plantation, and shall continue to go on as fast as circumstances will admit of. The Goods of

my Cargo remaining for Sale are as follows, vizt. 50 Barrels of mackerel, 15 of beef, 33 of flour, 62 boxes of Candles, the Sales of which I flatter myself will be compleated by the 10th of next month. The markets appear to be more fluctuated at present than at my arrival, 25 sail of americans have arriv'd within 18 days. Dry fish sells at present for 20 Livres per 100 Ct., Pork may be purchas'd at 7 dollars per Barrel, and Beef at 6, by the Quantity. I cannot inform you any thing about political affairs, here they seem to imitate our majority of members at the assembly by making Laws this week and on the next anulling the same, which makes the business of the town very much stagnated. You may depend on my utmost exertion to make the greatest Dispatch thats possible while I remain, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant

BEN : BAILEY

[Endorsed,] Via New York. To the care of Messrs. Murray, Mumford and Bowen. By Capt. Bernard.

BENJAMIN PEIRCE TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

London, February 26th, 1790.

Sir,

AFTER a passage of 28 days I arrived at Falmouth 270 miles from this place which we travel'd in two days. the county of Cornwall is badly cultivated the farm houses miserably poor, and the countenances of the farmers declare extreem indigence. Nearer the Capital the face of country grows better but the Situation of the Husbandman is not desireable in any part of the Kingdom. The winter has been uncommonly mild, pease and beans are up in the gardens and the lots as green as in May with us.

Wheat is 7/ per Bushel, Beef and mutton $5\frac{1}{4}d$ per li Pork and Veal $6d$ per li. from Copenhagen and Russia we have favorable accounts as to markets, at Russia Hemp is 23 Rubles per Berkowitz Sail Cloth 20 per Ct. cheaper than last year and the Winter so favorable that the canals have not been froze which will enable them to get their Hemp early to market and of consequence prevent the arrival of Spring

Ships from raising the price. Iron is very high. Messrs. Lane Son & Fraser can better in[form] you of the markets here than I and will no doubt do it. Russia and Sweeden are making every preparation for war and it seems there will be another Campaign.

I am, Gentlemen, &c

WD Peirce

Francisco C. Sarmento and Co. to Christopher Champlin [1]

New Port, April 4th, 1790.

Dear Sir,

I have looked over your Memorandum and at Foot have set down the most proper Articles for the Teneriffe Market, and should you send a Cargoe composed of such as is there marked consigned to our House in Teneriffe, I will engage that on their Arrivel there, my Partner Mr. Wm. Mahony, shall immediately advance to the Amount of the cargoe at the current whole sale prices then going for such articles when the same may arrive in good Cargoe Wines at the current shipen price of £12 St. per Pipe and Particular Wine a £15 St. free of expence on board. Altho it is customary to take the Cargoes to our own Act. at the current whole sale prices on their Arrival, yet to oblige you and encorage a farther Connextion I agree to leave it at your Option, either to direct us to do so, or we will sell your Cargo out on your Act. and retail it so as to bring the highest Current Prices that can be got and give you Credit for the Nt. proceeds and only charge the customary Commission of 4 per Ct. on the Sales but none on the Shipment of the wines.

If Advice is given in time of the Vessel and Cargoe that you may think proper to send by the present Opp'y of Mr. Gibbs Vessel, the wines will be ready and your vessel may

[1] The original is in the Newport Historical Society.

be dispatched in Eight Days after her arrival at Teneriffe and if no Advice is given it seldom takes more tha[n] a fortnight to unload and load as we always keep a stock of wines on hands. I am, Dear Sir, Your Most Obedient Servants

FRAN'CO C. SARMENTO AND CO.

Memorandum of the Cargo

India Corn as much as posible.
Rye . . do. . . . . do.
Some Common Flour.
About 20 bar'ls Pork.
Do. . . 12 do . . Beef.
Do. . . 12 Tierces Rise.
Do. . . 20 Boxes of sperma Candles.
30 Boxes of Mould Tallow Candles.
Bar Iron flat and wide is the best.
Russia Cordage from 1 to 5 inches.
Do. a few Hawsers.
Do. Duck and all kind of Brown and Corse Linens. this last Articles are very saleable all times.

JACOB DOHRMAN AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Lisbon, 8th June, 1790.

Sir:

WE hope the Liberty we take in availing ourselves of an opportunity which now offers of transmitting you inclosed a price current, will not prove disagreeable, for altho' the prices of Grain with you are such as to put a stop to all speculation at present yet whenever they shall come down to the accustomed rate you will find that there is no Market in Europe where that article will in general answer better than in Lisbon. The last Wheat sold free from board at 520 rs. per Alquer equal to a Dollar per Bushel, and 2 Cargoes of Indian Corn which we have had to our address in the course of the last Month were disposed of at the very high price of 320 rs. per Alquer equal to a Dollar per Bushel and which left a neat proceed of $\frac{7}{8}$ of a Dollar after deducting all expences. It is true it is hardly to be expected these prices will continue longer than until our ensuing Harvest, but nevertheless whenever Wheat can be shipt with you for a

Dollar and Indian Corn for a trifle more than one third of a Dollar per Bushel we are enabled to assert from a long course of experience that they will seldom fail to render here pleasing Accounts. We always hold ourselves ready to advance *in Cash* the Value of such Cargos immediately upon their Arrival here, and we trust you will judge favorably of our Mode of dispatching Business when we assure you that of the above 2 Vessels with Corn the one was entirely dispatched, with the Balance of her Account on board in Dollars in six and the other in eight days after their arrival.

White Oak Pipe Staves to fetch the price quoted ought to be of the full length of 58 inches, 4 to 5 inches broad and $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch thick.

Should you have no Connections in Cadiz we beg leave to recommend our very good Friends Maurice Roberts and Co. who we can assert are capable of executing in the best manner any business you may have there.

Whenever you should have occasion to speculate this way and think proper to intrust us with the Management of your business you may rest assured of our exerting ourselves for your Interest in such a manner as may insure a continuance of your favors. We are, Sir: Your obedient humble Servants,

JACOB DOHRMAN AND COMPANY

Amsterdam 52. London 67.

Received and forwarded by Sir Your obedient humble Servant,

CHS. AUGS. BUSCH.

St. Ubes, 17th June, 1790.

SAMUEL LAWTON TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Cronstad, July 9th, 1790.

Gentlemen,

THIS may inform you of my safe arivel here from Copenhagen in seven days. the wind has blown a long time from the westward that has detaind us some but notwithstanding we have got on board all our Iron and half the hemp likewise and the rest is along side. I came from petersbourg yester-

day and the Duck was all shipt and the first fair wind I shall exspect it down. if the [wea]ther should prove good I exspect to sail for Copenhagen by the 18th of July at furdest. I shall make all the dispach possible you may depend on. I write this by Capt. Pirce who will be able to inform you more perticaler concerning the market here. as for my hemp it cost 25 Rubels and half Berkowitz and the freights down from Petersbourg here is five and five and half Rubels per Tun. my Ducks cost Ten Ru. and 70 and 10 and 75 per Bolt. the Letter I wrote at Copenhagen informing you of my arivel in 54 days I hope has come to hand. Sir I Remain your humble servant

SAM'L LAWTON

ACCOUNT

Negro Congo to Chris Champlin, Dr.

1790.		
July 10th.	To Cash in full of Six months Wages	£7. 10.
Aug. 31st.	To Castor hat	1.--
Sept. 3d.	To 4 Yds Fustian at 2/6	.10
	thread *6d* buttons 10*d*	1.4
1791.		
Jan. 21st.	To John Remingtons Account Shoes up to October 14th 1790.	.19.--
		£10. 0.4
1791.		
Jan. 21st.	To Cash in full of your Account of Wages up to December 3d 1790	4. 19.8
		£15.--.--
	Supra . . . . . Cr.	
1791.		
Jan. 21st.	By one years Wages due December 3d 1790	£15.--.--

Newport, Jan. 21st 1791

Recd of Mr. Chris. Champlin four pounds Nineteen Shillings and eight pence in full of my monthly wages up to December 3d 1790.

CONGO.

£4.19.8.

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Teneriffe, July 23d, 1790.

Sir,

I ARRIV'D here on the 8th Inst. after a very tedious passage attended with light winds and calms for the most part of

the time. I was very uneasy for fear the corn would be damag'd, but it was landed in good order as likewise the remainder part of the Cargo all of which was landed at Port Orotava by the choice of Mr. Mahony. It was very unlucky your not writing expressly by Capt. Fry what gauge I was to take whether that of this Island or the madeira gauge. the consequence was they had no Pipes ready made of the Madeira gauge which is the only size that are ship'd for the India Market. Mr. Mahony purposes to load me with 120 Pipes of genuine wine 75 of which I have on board and expect to be compleated by the 27th when I shall immediately proceed as directed. I cannot inform you any particular price current of Goods at this Island. the markets are very dull to appearance and prices variable accordingly. I shall advise you all opportunities. In the mean time I remain Sir your most

Obed't Servt. Ben: Bailey

P. S. They have been making great preparations in Spain for a war with England and are putting their forts in the best defence in all the Canary Islands. Mr. Sarmento and Co. has a brig laying here ready for Sea but dare not send her out untill the next Packet arrives from the Groyne which will be by the 15th of next month.

[Endorsed,] Via Philadelphia. To the care of Messrs. Hughes and Anthony Merchants. By Capt. Kitts. Rec'd per Gladding from Philadelphia. Sept. 27, 1790.

Francisco C. Sarmento and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Tenerife, 29 July, 1790.

Sir,

My Uncle Mr. Wm. Mahony being confined to his bed for some days past of a slight fever, and prevented of course from attending to business, has directed me to address you

these few lines, the purport of which is to inclose you Bill of Lading and Invoice of 80 pipes 40 Hoggshds. and 80 Quarter Casks making together 120 pipes of choice Vidonia Wine, shipp'd on the Brigg *Baione* Capt. Benjamin Bailey in virtue of your order at £12 Stg. per pipe, also 2 Quarter Casks of particular wine at £15 per pipe and 2 Quarter Casks of sweet Mamzy £40 per pipe for all which you are debitted in Account with Messrs. Francisco C. Sarmento and Co. £ Stg. 1467.10. as you are also with [£] 15.12.5½ amount of sundry disburses and Port Charges of said Brigg as per Account deliver'd Capt. Bailey.

The Abocado you call'd for is not to be found at present: the heavy rains we had all last Vintage made it impossible for the Planters to make any, consequently the sweet Mamzy goes as a substitute, tho' superior in quality, and my Uncle hopes you'll approve of the same.

The moment my said Uncle is recover'd in his health, he will embrace the first opportunity to write you at large; being what offers I remain very respectfully etc.

[William McDaniell.]

Francisco C. Sarmento and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Tenerife, 13 August, 1790.

Sir,

We had the pleasure of addressing you under 22 and 29 of last month whereof the foregoing are Copys. On the 30 ulto. Capt. Bailey saild for L'Orient with 121 pipes wine we ship'd on his Brigg *Bayonne* agreeable to your directions as per duplicate Invoice and Bill of Lading herewith, for whose amount you are debitted £1467.10 Stg. as mention'd in said last letter and £15.12.5½ for supplys made said Vessell. As for the quality of the wine we have no doubt it will be liked, having selected the whole quantity from some hundreds of pipes we had purchased from the best growths. Capt. Bailey had some few days delay on account of the Madeira Casks, with which we were not provided, for want

of previous advice; bating this circumstance he had every other dispatch that cou'd possibly be given him. He flatter'd us with returning hither on our encouraging him to bring 15 to 20 pipes french Brandy for which we offer'd him 2 Gallons wine for 1 of Brandy.

His Cargo as already hinted will not begin to sell before the fall, as yet it remains untouched; however you may rely upon our utmost exertions in disposing of it for the most the Market will afford, and allowing you every advantage that circumstances will permitt, being equally desirous with our F. C. S. to render your dealings to this Island as encouraging as possible. We cou'd wish however that the Assortment had been better chosen: a quarter part at least of the Iron shou'd have been square Barrs, less Beef, and more Pork wou'd have answer'd better; the Corn as already mention'd to you has a bad collour, a larger quantity of pipe staves wou'd have also answer'd well; but above all, the Assortment of Cordage is the worse that cou'd have been thought on; of this article Hawsers from 4 to $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. are the most vendible, and you sent only 2, so that the remaining 94 ps. are all running rigging from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches, so very unsaleable here that years may pass over before they can be disposed of. its our wish therefore you woud order said parcell back (the greatest part at least) by first Vessell you may order this way and send in their stead Hawsers of the dimensions pointed above.

We have at present a great scarcity of Butter. 60 Casks of a good quality to arrive here in November or December next wou'd sell readily and to advantage, as wou'd also a dozen Casks Hoggs Lard, Rye and Rye Meal are good articles, as is also flax if you cou'd hit upon the dutch method of dressing and packing it up.

We remain very truely.

[*Unsigned*]

——— TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Charleston, August 19th, 1790.

Sir

THE duplicate of your esteemed favour of 28th June last was duly handed by Captain Haskell, the Original (owing to the *Betseys* long passage from New York) came to hand but yesterday.

Madeira Wine of the London Market quality has been sold from £32 to £40 but is not a ready sale as there is sufficient here to supply our Markets for a long time to come; it is sometimes sold on a short Credit say 1 to 6 months, but is so slow a sale in general that it would be inconvenient to advance Rice or other Cash articles on receipt of it. Teneriffe in general is more saleable altho' seldom a quick sale. it is usually sold £15 to £18 and sometimes £20. but seldom higher than £18. a few say 10 or 12 pipes if very good might sell but not a large Quantity unless it should wait a Market. Northward Rum has been scarce and in great demand but is now more plenty. this article is in great demand with the Planters in Autumn when the Crops come in, but the prices of this and other Goods are governed by the quantity in Market. we think it probable it will be 1/8 to 1/10 yet if there is not an over supply it will keep its present price say 2/2 to 2/3. there is a considerable Sale of Train Oil to the Indigo Planters but their season for purchasing is nearly over as they are now about cutting. they generally lay in their supplies by the first of August after which the sales are very slow thro' the year. Spermaceti Oil is at present 3/6, Spermaceti Candles usually sell 1/10 to 2/. and except the Market is much over stocked meet a ready sale. they are in demand at present and sell at 2/4. W. India goods in general are high and will we imagine answer well between this and Christmas, after which the Country trade slackens, loaf Sugar is now very scarce and in great demand, Exchange on Specie (which is regarded here as an article of Merchandize all business being transacted in Paper) is at present 10 to 12½ per % but when the

crops come, it will probably be as low as five. Exchange on London or other ports in England and France is usually at par for specie and seldom over 5 per %. Northward produce in general sells well when it is scarce, but the articles being mostly perishable are very dull sale when they are plenty and there is perhaps no principal Market in America where the prices of goods are so entirely governed by the quantity as in this. We enclose the present state of our Markets and are Sir respectfully Your Most Obedient Servants.

[*Unsigned*]

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 26th August, 1790.

Sir

I REFER you to my letter of the 9th April per the *Mary* Captain Davis for Providence with Invoice of a Bundle Linens. Since am without any of your favors.

The present hands Abstract of your Account Current Ballance due me to your debit in a new account £0 : 10 : 10*d.*

Our Crop of Corn and Flax prooves good, all Idea of saving the Seed is given up in this country. its impossible to say at this distance what the price of this Article may be next Spring, that will depend on the Quantity [that] arrives. I must beg leave to inform you that the [seed from] Rhode Island was complained of as being very dirty. when that from Philadelphia (that formerly sold for 2/ to 2/6 per Hhd less then either the Newyork Seed or yours) sold for 2/ more by reason of it's being so much better cleand. If I thought the Pot and Pearl ashes of the first Quality could be purchased as cheap with you as at Boston I would give you an order for two or three hundred Barels next Summer. I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

Edward Forbes

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

L'Orient, September 10th, 1790.

Sir,

I arriv'd here from Teneriffe on the 5th Inst. after a long tedious Passage of 37 days. on my arrival received your favour of the 19th of July. I am very sorry to inform you that my Cargo of wine cannot be sold at L'Orient, although it is of an excellent quality. Mr. Lanchon has effectually apply'd to every person whom he thought would purchase but without the least success. the last an only alternative he has immediately wrote to his Correspondents at Paris and St. Maloes offering the wine for sale requesting an answer by the next Posts which will be here in the course of six days, when if nothing proves favorable towards the Sale of the wine I shall immediately depart for the West India Islands. I imagine you have not been inform'd of all private Companys of Merchants being dissolv'd in France since the Revolution, which is really the case. there is now only one Ship a fitting for India at this Port, and they have not any Inclination to buy wine. the four hogsheads of Tobacco would have been sold yesterday at 42 Livres per 100 li. if it had suited the Irish market but the Quality did not suit the purchaser.

I advised Mr. Christopher Grant Champlin immediately after my arrival, and expect an answer by next Post if he does not come himself. Brandy cannot be bought at L'Orient for less than 7 li. 10s per Velt as they import it from Bordeaux. I have inclos'd a Price Current for your Government and shall by the next Opportunity advise you of my future Proceedings from this date. In the Interim I am, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

Benjamin Bailey

P. S. They have received orders from Government, at Brest to equip 45 Ships of war ready for sea. their destination remains a profound Secret. there are 36 English men of war of[f] Ushant and 38 Spanish men of war of Cape St. Vincent. by a Vessel just arriv'd from the Baltic I am

inform'd the Russian fleet have captur'd 7 Swedish men of war of[f] Hoogland among which was the Swedish Admiral.

Lanchon Frères et Cie. to Christopher Champlin

L'Orient, 10th September, 1790.

Sir,

The 5th Inst. Captain Bailey in your Brigantine the *Bayonne* arrived safe here and handed us your much esteemed favour of 17th May last consigning said Brig and her Cargo to our care for which preference we beg you will accept our sincere acknowledgements. We could wish to add that we succeeded in the Sale of the Wine but our best endeavours are frustrated for want of a demand for that article at the moment and we are afraid Captain Bailey must try a better market. The late Suppression of our India Company which we did ourselves the pleasure of informing you by Circular under the date of 15th May, has deranged that trade, and the Individuals have not as yet taken it up here, so that we have at present no Armaments. had Captain Bailey been more fortunate in his Voyage, and arrived about six weeks sooner we should have had an opportunity of disposing of his entire Cargo to a friend who fitted out a Vessel and was obliged to send her to Teneriffe for a Cargo for the India Market, but regrets that cannot be remedied are useless. however as there may be a demand in some of our neighboring Ports and in hopes of having an answer before the Captain can be ready to leave this, we have written to our friends in Nantes, St. Malos, etc., in hopes of doing something. we have even written to Paris to a house late in the direction of the Company and who still continues its Connections in India and fitts out Vessels on its own account Messrs. Monneron Brothers, Bankers, making them an offer of the Cargo and we mention very moderate terms to tempt their acceptance. this Letter we have inclosed to your good Son as he sent us his address some time ago, and we request of him to deliver it himself that he may have the opportunity of backing our proposals and if possible encouraging a

bargain. We hope this will have effect and that the return of the Post will bring us a favourable answer. we expect at same time that Mr. Grant Champlin will fix the time of his departure for this place, that we may be expecting the pleasure of seeing him, be assured it will be a sincere one to us and to render him every Service in our power. We have landed the four hhds of Tobacco, which we have no doubt of selling tho' they are far from being a best Quality. did the whole Cargo consist of prime Tobacco we could easily dispose of it as the demand is brisk for the Irish Market and none to be had. however the Scarcity will sell yours. The Pot ashes we shall also place without difficulty and we are only sorry there were not 200 instead of two Barrels for the Consumption is great for that article above the Import. the price we expect for it is 38 li per % and for the Tobacco 36 li to 38 li per % . for the Net Proceeds of those we shall account with your Son Mr. G. C. when sold, and shall advance him the [sum of] hundred Livres you direct us whether we sell them immediately or not. Inclosed you will find a Price Current of our articles of import and export for Information and Government by which you will observe the articles most likely to sell well and to encourage Speculation we hope it may induce you to extend your Concerns this way and give us many opportunities of shewing you our attention to your Interest and proving how much we are, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants,

Lanchon Frères et Cie.

We have sold 2 Hhds of the Tobacco at 40 li per % usual term of 4 Mo.

Francisco C. Sarmento and Co. to Christopher Champlin

Tenerife, 17 September, 1790.

Sir,

The foregoing is copy of our last 13 August, to whose contents pray be referr'd.

We now have the pleasure to acquaint you of the arrival

of our F. C. S. the 20 ulto. at Santo Cruz, with his family all in good health, and returns you many thanks for the civilitys you shew'd him whilst there. Since his arrival every exertion has been used to run off the *Bayon's* Cargo, which we at length effected at such prices as we flatter our selves you'll not be displeased with, at least we can assure you none better cou'd possibly be obtain'd. The Nt. proceeds £1195.2.9 as per Account Sales herewith are pass'd to your credit in Account. You'll find also inclosed an Abstract of y/a current ballanced by £287.19 in our favour, both which you'll please to examine, and if without error note in in conformity. We were excessively glad to get rid of the Cordage and Corn, expecially the former article, of which kind very little is used here a circumstance that obliged us to lower somewhat of the current price: the Corn tho' sound, had a dark collour, which is bad recommendation, and considering the great quantitys at Market, think it did not sell amiss.

As you mean to continue this trade, the only articles we wou'd recommend you to send here are those mention'd in our last, to which may be added 80 ps. Russia Sail duck, 800 to 1000 bushells round Corn, 40 barrels Pork and fill up with pipe Staves. A small Cargo of such articles to arrive here in all the present year, or begginning of next, wou'd we doubt [not] answer your account especially if the price of wines, as we expect, from the appearance of the present Vintage, lowers in price.

You may rely we shall on all occasions consult your interest the same we wou'd our own, and shew you the sincere esteem with which we are, Gentlemen Your Most Obedient Servants,

FRANCISCO C. SARMENTO AND CO.

Assortment of Hawsers

8	. . .	6½ inches . . .	120 fathom.
16	. . .	5½ do.	do.
8	. . .	5 do.	do.
8	. . .	4½ do.	do.
5	. . .	4 do.	60.
45			

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

L'Orient, September 22nd, 1790.

Sir,

Since I wrote you by Capt. Dickason via Boston Mr. Lanchon has receiv'd answer from the Letters he wrote for St. Maloes and Nantz offering my Cargo for sale wherein no offers are made for any part of it. In the interim three mails have arriv'd from Paris and no answer to the Letter we have wrote Mr. Christopher Grant Champlin, which makes us suppose your Son must certainly be in the Country, as Mr. Lanchon inclos'd the letter directed to his Correspondent in one for Mr. Christopher G : Champlin, thinking his offer for the sale of the wine with the Letter would have more effect. there has been an offer made at this Port at 320 Livres the Pipe, payable in three and six months, which by the first Cost of the wine freight and Commission of 4 per Cent, which Mr. Lanchon requires to furnish the Brandy, and the uncommonly high price of Brandy at Bordeaux, makes Mr. Lanchon think it will be sacrifising too great a part to indulge so unreasonable an offer, therefore if the wind proves favorable to morrow I shall leave this port for the Islands. I have been detain'd by winds this six days, am in hopes to morrow to meet with a fair gale. By the last accounts from Bordeaux Brandy is up to 220 Livres the 32 Velts and soon was like to be as high as 250 li. to 270 li. owing to the great Scarcity and bad vintages for wine for this two years past. I shall advise you immediately on my arrival in the Islands. In the Interim, Remain Sir Your most Obedient Servant,

Benjamin Bailey

P. S. I have sent by Capt. Sheffield those six Charts I had belonging to Capt. Benjamin Pierce.

LANCHON FRÈRES ET CIE. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

L'Orient, 29th September, 1790.

Sir,

OUR last respects were of the 20th Inst. per Captain Bailey who sailed from hence the 24th with fair Wind and Weather, as we could not dispose of the Wine to advantage, the only offer we had being 320 Livres per pipe payable in 3 and 6 Mo. which Captain Bailey thought too low particularly as Brandy could not be got less than from 8 li to 8 li 10s per Velt. we sincerely hope that he will meet with better Success where he is going to and that your further Consignments to this place will be more fortunate, which they cannot fail of being if you send us Pot and Pearl ashes, good Tobacco, or good Ship Timber fit for Men of War, a few Barrels of good Tar and good Provisions may also sell, but we would not advise you to send much as they are not yet in the best repute. In our said Letter was the Account of disbursements for the *Bayonne*, amount £440.17.6 to your debit as per duplicate inclosed, to which we must add £3.8 for Surplus of Outward Pilotage, paid since Captain Bailey's departure and per his order, which Surplus appears to be occasioned by the extra attendance of the Pilot by contrary Winds.

We mentioned having sold two of the Hhds of Tobacco No. 2 and 3 and 40 li per % and that we should have sold the other two had they been of equal Quality. we also informed you of the two Barrels of Pot ash being damaged, all which we confirm. We have not as yet had an answer to a letter we had the pleasure of writing to Mr. Grant Champlin at Paris, on arrival of Captain Bailey. We therefore suppose him to have left that City, and we indulge ourselves in the hope of soon seeing him here. We remain very truly, Sir, Your obedient humble Servants

LANCHON FRÈRES ET CIE.

FENWICK MASON AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Bordeaux, 1 November, 1790.

Sir,

IN complyance with the promise made you by our J. F. who had the pleasure to make your acquaintance last summer and who now begs to repeat his thanks for your civility to him while in Newport. This covers a letter from your Son whose address you was kind enough to give us and we with pleasure announce to you the satisfaction we have had in making his acquaintance. were we not affraid of the imputation of flattery as it is Father and Son in question we coud say much more than assure you that we think no American ever travelled in Europe to more advantage and with more credit to himself than he has. It gives us pleasure to have it [in] our power to show him some attention and sorry his stay here is intended so short — he proposing to go for Nantes in a few days.

Whale oil is now worth here 30 li per Ct. a gallon will net about 7 pounds wight, sperm oil 50 li per Ct. Cod fish Oil in demand at 170 to 175 per hhd of 64 gallons. it is impossible to see how long these prices will last but latterly our Market has been scantily supplyed with them. Beef is dull sale at 33 to 40 li per barrel, American pork in high repute and demand at 65 to 70 li per barrel, Tallow also at 70 to 78 li per Ct. There is very little Pot and Perl ash and flaxseed consumed here therefore cannot recommend shipment of those articles. Grain is demanded tho' no scarcity, and we are satisfyed if wheat can be shiped at 5/. your Currency per Bushel, Rye 2/. and Indian Corn 1/6 and Flour 24/. They may be sent to this market to a very good account.

We are in daily expectations of having our new system of commerce published which from its freedom and liberality we have reason to expect our market and port will have resourecs in trade equal *at least* to any in Europe for the products of America.

Preparations for war are going on with vigor and alacrity

a little time must certainly unfold their issue. should war take place which is now thought inevitable it will greatly enhance the price of American produce particularly grain and provisions. we cover you a price current and remain with assurances of attention to any commands you may please to impose on us, Sir, Your most Obedient and Humble Servants

FENWICK MASON AND CO.

[Endorsed,] Per *Mary Davis*, Q. D. C.

EBENEZER SHEARMAN TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN AND THOMAS WICKHAM

Charleston, South Carolina, November 1st, 1790.

Gentelmen

THIS my first Opertunity may serve to inform you of the saif arrival of Sloop *Peggy*, at this Port, the 22nd of October without receiving aney Axedent. have disposed of the greatest part of my Cargo as follows Rum all sold at 2/4 per Gallon Strained Oile 2/ do. Common Oil at 1/6 Loaf Shugar at 1/1*d*. per lb Mainhaden from 9/ per bbl to 11/8 Apples from 4/8 per bbl. to 9/ Potatoes at 2/ per bushel Mackril at 20/ per bbl Spr. Candles at 2/3 to 2/4 per lb. Cyder from 8/4 to 11/8 to 14/ Cheese at 4*d* to 6*d*.

Have on hand the following articles, viz. 15 bbr Cyder dull Sail, 63 Cheeses do. 11 Boxis Spr. Candles do. 5 Barrils Mainhaden and Tenn of the smalles Cask of Oile. the Oile Candles and Cheese I mean to carrey to the Westindias if not sold in 3 or 4 days. I expect to sail for the Windward Islans by that time, with Rice and Tobacco for Cargo. Rice is at 11/ per 100 lb Tobacco at 15/ per 100 ditto at this Poart; it would have given me great Pleasure to have dun better, but we shall be on the rite sid of Pounds Shillings and Pence at this Markit; Westindia Produce is high and very little at Markit at my return here I'm in hopes to give you a better Account of Markits. Pleas to except of my best Wishis for your Helth hapiness and Prosperity. I'm with due Respect Your Most Humbel Servant,

EBENEZER SHEARMAN

[Endorsed,] Per Captain I. Tillinghast.

Ebenezer Shearman to Christopher Champlin and Thomas Wickham

Charleston, So. Carolina, November 4th, 1790.

Gentelmen,

This my second opertunity per Captain Burden the other per Tillinghast will serve to inform you the Sloop *Peggy* is reedey for the Seas. Shall imbrace the first fair Wind for the Westindia Windward Islands, with a Cargo now on board on account of C. Champlin Tho. Wickham and Eben Shearman, one third eaquil Consern, viz.

Tenn hhds. Tobaco N 5 to N 14 at 15/ per 100 Sterling mo[ney]
Eighty five Tearsis Rice . . . at 11/ . .do. do. mo.
10 bbl. Common Oil . . . . .at 35/ per bbl. do. mo.

43 Cheesis of the best resurved out of them I brought here Freight 5 Tearsis Rice only. Could have carrey'd about twenty moar freight, but could not git them without wating some time. Shall make all possable Dispatch to return to this Port; I mean to make St. Eustatia my Port for Sailes, if answerable, as the Chargis there is light, and the french Ports high, and all in Confewtion. Since my last per Tillinghast have sold viz.

13 bbl. Cyder at 5/4 to 6/ per bbl.
5 bbl. Mainhaden at 10/ to 10/6 per bbl.
342 lb.$\frac{1}{2}$ Cheese at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per lb to $4\frac{1}{4}d$ do.
11 Boxis Spr. Candles at $2\frac{1}{4}d$ per lb.

Should have sent you an account of Sailes and an Invoice of the Cargo, the Time cant be spaird unless I let my other buisness suffer. Adue my good friends. I'm with due Respect Your Most Humbel Servant

Ebenezer Shearman

Ebenezer Shearman to Christopher Champlin and Co.

St. Eustatia, November 24th, 1790.

Gentelmen,

This my firs opertunity from St. Eustatia may serve to inform you of my Arrival at this Poart the 19th Instant had an agreable Pasage of 13 days, but had the Misfortin to carrey away two of my Shrouds on said Pasage. finding them not sufficient to perform my voige, without great risk, have purchas'd Roap for new Shrouds, which will detain me two or three days to fix, and put my Vessil in order for sailing. the detention of doing this Jobb is not agreable to me, nither will the Expence be to you, Rigin at tenn Dollars per C. have sold my Rice at 3 dollars per C Tobacco at 3 and ½ do. Oile at 12 dollars per bbl. Cheese at one bitt and ¼ to 1½ bit per lb. have purchas'd Salt at 4 bits per 3 Bushels or bbl Powderd Sugars from 10 to 11½ Ps Eight per C. Coffee at 1½ bit per lb. Shall take some Genneva if my money holds out. I have been so crouded with buisness at Charleston and this Port pervented me from giveing pertickeler accounts, but at my arrival at Charleston shall. shall sail by the 27th or 28 Instant. I flater myself the *Penn* will come right. Adue

Ebenezer Shearman

Captain Baly has arriv'd at St. Bartolee was on bord me yesterday. Ship is under sail. Adue.

Lanchon Frères et Cie. to Christopher Champlin

L'Orient, 15 January, 1791.

Sir,

We had the pleasure of writing to you the 29th September a. p. per the *States* Captain Sheffield, confirming the departure of Captain Bailey the 24th of same month to a better market, and inclosing you Duplicate Accounts of his disbursements here amount L.444.5.6 to which beg to refer. Your good Son Mr. C. Grant Champlin has since, say the

1st December relieved our long expectation of seeing him, but the stay of a few days which he made here was too short to leave it in our power to pay him in its full extent the Civility we could have wished and which his engaging manner, independent of his connection to you would have demanded at our hands. we acquitted ourselves however as well as we could and furnish'd him with our draft on Paris at Sight for L.800. Tour[noi]s to your debit agreeable to his desire and with Letters of introduction to our different friends in the several towns he meant to pass thro' on the Road he took to Dunkirk where we understand he means to take Shipping for Holland. he was much disappointed in not meeting Captain Bailey here, as was the Captain in not seeing him, but his having left Paris previous to our letters reaching there and going to Bordeaux before he came here was the cause. we hope he is by this time at, or near, his Journey's end, say Dunkirk, tho' we have not heard from him since he left this. he delivered us your letter of 8th May.

Your two Hhds of inferior Tobacco remain yet on hands and are likely to do so for some time on account of the Quality and as the farmers General are stocked, but the Pot ashes tho' damaged are disposed of at Nants at [*blank*] per % this shows you how that article is sought for when even what's damaged goes off so well. our demand is very considerable for it here and none to be had, nor is there a danger of glutting the Market by over importation therefore we strenuously recommend it to you to extend your Speculations in that article and send a Cargo as soon as possible, of which we engage you a good account. this and Pearl ashes which is equally sought after and scarce, and good Tobacco are the best articles for this Market. Rice would also sell well, so would good ship Timber and Staves, a few Barrels of cleane well inspected Tar, and a few of good Provisions might also sell, but we cannot recommend deep Speculation in those articles as they are not (say the American) in good repute here. Whale and Fish Oil and whale fins are articles of our consumption likewise and generally of good account. for

your further Government we inclose you a price current, to which craving reference it only remains for us to wish you the Compliments of [the] Season which we do very sincerely and many happy returns of this new year, assuring you of the perfect attachment with which we are, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

LANCHON FRÈRES ET CIE.

Our National Assembly has just passed a Law prohibiting the importation of all foreign oils except American, which may be imported under a Duty of 12 li per % wt. We hope this may encourage your fisheries as the french are as yet incompitent for the Consumption.

21 February, 1791.

By the delay of the packet we have the opportunity of informing you that the farmers General are suppressed and the importation of Tobacco made free without any duty if reexported within a year otherwise or if used in the Country to pay a duty of 25 per % Wt. which is not half what the farmers General heretofore imposed on the consumer. We had a letter from your good Son dated at Dunkirk 29th ulto. by which it appears he was then well and preparing for his Trip to Holland.

SAMUEL LAWTON TO CHRISTOPHER AND GEORGE CHAMPLIN

Cape françois, february 18th, 1791.

Gentlemen,

THESE may inform you of my safe arivel in 16 days three days before Capt. Engs. I find here a great number of Americans and every thing very lowe. I had some thoughts of going to Porterprince, but on inquiring find it as bad there as here. fish is much lower there. as for my Oil I could do nothing with it there such a quantity going down in one Vessel. I had some prospect here at first but after I had enterd there was two sail come in the next day chiefly with Candels and Oil and flower. there is no end to it this day the best of Philadelphia superfine is sold for six Dol. what I

shall do with my Oil I no not, the People from the eastward would be glad to get 40 sue per gal for 20 Cask together. I have got mine all on board yet. I have sold my fish for 33 Liver. my flower I was glad to get 55 Livers being stoad among the [Oil?] the Barrels was as black as if they had bin stoad in a oil house in the midst of summer. I have sold some of my candels at 3 Liv. 5 sous hering what I have sold from 28 to 30 Liv. rice very dul here I have sold a few Cask at 20 to 22 Liver per mound? Long staves 190 Liver mackril going from $4\frac{1}{4}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ Dol. sammon $8\frac{1}{2}$ Dol. dull, minhaden no price fixt. the Onions sold at 10 sue per Bunch, molasses very scarce and high so much rains up as high as 78 and 80 sue. I expect it will be something lower. sugers very high. Tis not in my power to make dispatch. Capt. Shearman saild a few days ago for Porterprince with 90 Cask of rice. Dennis likewise with 100 besides flower and Vessels going down every day and coming in here. I shall write again soon by Capt. Arnold or Minro bound for Providence. I remain yours,

Saml. Lawton

Plese to acquaint my family of my arivel.

[Endorsed,] favoured by Capt. Deming.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher and George Champlin

Cape François, March 4th, 1791.

Gentlemen,

Sir this my second letter the first by Captain Deming by the way of Newlondon informing you of my arivel in 16 days days and likewise of the markets here. they still remain much the same. I have sold of all my fish as I wrote you before for 33 Livers flower at 55 Livers sence that I have sold

about third of my Oil at 45 Livers and about half of my Candels from 3 Livers five to 3 Livers ten. I have got on hand now the remainder of the Oils and Candels the two thirds of the minhaden and about one third of my salmon. the herings sold from 28 to 30 Livers Salmon from 8 Dol to 8½ mackrel very musty from 4½ to 4¼ minhaden what sold from 1½ Dol. to 2 Dol. very dull sail. molasses keepes up to eighty sue per Velt yet the first quality of sugers at 8 Dollers. I am in hopes Molasses will be some thing lower but it is very uncertain so many Vessels comeing in. Capt. Engs and my self will wait a few weekes longer before we shall begin t[o buy] it for if it comes plentier it will be better then [now.] Mr. Stonsong and Shafre are the merchants I have aply['d to] to assist me with my Cargo. so I remain Your humble servant.

Sam'l Lawton

Edward Forbes to Christopher Champlin

Dublin, 15 April, 1791.

Sir,

The bearer being bound for your place, giving me an opportunity of paying my respects, and acquaint you that Flaxseed has been sold here this Season at various prices, from 42/6 to 62/6 per Hhd. and this day 66/. and £3.8.3 is is asked, but believe not given; the rise has been owing to the quantity of Flaxseed lost from America, not less than from 4000 to 5000 Hhds. Early this Month, a Ship bound here from Philadelphia with near 1000 Hhds on board was wrecked near Limerick, which with two other Vessels now kept out by the Easterly Winds, (which generally I think prevails about this Season) hath occasioned it. The preparations making in England to send a large Fleet into the Baltic, against the Russians, has occasioned a rise in Naval Stores, etc. Lumber has also advanced, as well as every other article imported from the Baltic. Respectfully I remain, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

Edward Forbes

[Endorsed,] Per *Patty* Capt. Mosher.

FENWICK MASON AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN [1]

Bordeaux, le 30 April, 1791.

Sir,

NOT doubting it of sufficient consequence to be interesting, we make it a duty to give you the earliest information of the important reform just made in the tobacco trade to this kingdom, by a late decree of the national asembly.

The Farme, and all exclusive priveledges and abuses, in purchase, sale and manufacture of Tobacco, are from the 15 day of this month abolished; since which date all American Tobaccoes are admissable as before, (coming in leaf and in Cask *directly* from America in *French* or *American* Bottoms *only*) and stored in the national magazines, where they have the right of entrepot for 12 months, without duty; and may at any time during that period, be reshipped equally free: When taken out for consumption, they are subject to a duty of 25 l. p. cwt: imported on American, of 18 l. 15 s. p. cwt.: on French bottoms.

We beg leave to remark that this article is sold as before in the stores of Entrepôt; and as it is the consumer who pays the duty on taking it out, it is not felt by the Importer; that the number of private manufactures, establishing all over the country and beginning their purchases, has already occasioned a competition favorable to the sellerr, and before unknown here, which has considerably augmented the price of Tobacco (for this refer to our current adjoind); that in future the natural consequence of individual emulation, will make our market much more nice in qualities: those prefered and most demanded, will be the large, strong, black scented Tobacco, proper for snuff, which forms a very great proportion of our consumption.

We must not omit to advise, that the same decree permits the cultivation of Tobacco throughout the Kingdom, but are of opinion that so little land can be spared from the present culture, and that our soil is so improper for the one in question, *little* is to be feared by the American planter from any

[1] A printed circular letter.

rivalship in this country; at all events *nothing* for some years to come.

The great difference made between french and American Bottoms, we can but lament; But are given to hope by M. Short, *chargé des affaires*, of the U. S. at Paris, the question will be reconsidered, and the two nations more equally taxed.

We flatter ourselves our port will offer a more advantageous general Market than any in the Kingdom, as well from its water communication with the interior country, quite to the medeteranneean; as from the orders that may result from the north of Europe, in consequence of the great commerce that is done with that quarter. And we beg to assure you of our unremitted attention to your interest and greatest exertions to give satisfaction when ever you may be pleased to intrust any thing to us.

Hoping this very favourable change may influence happily, in general, on so important a Branch of American commerce, and give you, in particular, room to many, and profitable adventures. With the greatest respect, We are, Sir, Your most obedient and very humble servants.

FENWICK MASON AND CO.

Below is a tariff of the other new duties as yet passed by our Government and which we suppose may be acceptable.

Whale and all other fish oil directly from America on French or American bottoms 6 l. p. cwt. (all other foreign oil prohibited). Whale bone 15 l. p. cwt. — Bees wax yellow 3 l. p. cwt. — Indigoe 15 l. p. cwt. — Flax seed 7 s. p. cwt. — Butter 50 s. p. cwt. — Turpentine 35 s. p. cwt. — Tar p. barril of 240 à 300 pounds 15 s. — Beef & pork 5 l. p. cwt. — Iron in Barrs 20 s. p. cwt. — Deer skins half drest 45 l. p. cwt. — Whole drest 75 l. p. cwt. — Bear skins 5 s. p. pièce — Squirrel 20 s. p. hundred. — Beaver, musk-rat rabbit, and hair skins *nothing*. — All skins raw in hair for tanning or dressing, as cow, veal, seal, deer, goat, sheep etc. *nothing*. — Pot and Pearl ashes, Tallow, Hemp, Pig-Iron, *nothing*. — Wheat, Rye, Rice and all sorts of grain, flour and biscuit *nothing*. — All sorts of timber, masts, staves, etc. *nothing*.

Note all duties here after, will be paid on the *nett* weight.

N. B. Beef and Pork may be stored on Entrepôt and sold free of Duty as before for Exportation.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Elsingore, June 16th, 1791.

Sir,

I arriv'd this morning three miles below Elsingore where I am now waiting for a fair wind to proceed on for Copenhagen, and shall embrace the first that offers. I presume the Goods on board is not damaged, as I have had quite a moderate passage and made Norway in thirty four days from my sailing. Captains Pierce and Greene [have] not arriv'd yet, Captain Wood past Elsingore on the 11th Inst. I shall immediately advise you on my arrival at Copenhagen. In the Interim I am Sir your most Obedient Servant

Ben: Bailey

P. S. I am now on shore at Elsingore where I shall meet with no detention as the ship is clear'd. I presume the Original Invoice of the Cargo must be produc'd as they seem scrupulous at the Custom house about the weights of the Goods, owing to Capts. Brown and Woods Invoice which gives a check and suspiscion.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Copenhagen, June 18th, 1791.

Sir,

I arriv'd yesterday morning but have advis'd you from Elsinore where I arriv'd on the 16th Inst. my outward Passage was very mild. I made Norway in thirty four days from my sailing. I presume theres none of the Goods on board are damaged as the Ship does not make much water. I shall begin to discharge on Monday next if the weather be good and shall with all dispatch proceed on for St. Petersburg. the Ship *William's* cargo is unsold. Mr. Saabye proposes to sell both our Cargoes together which will be in the course of six weeks. I presume the original Invoice must be produc'd to regulate the Entry at Elsinore as they seem'd suspicious of the Invoice I produc'd them, owing to the Entrys made by Captains Wood and Brown. Captains

Pierce, Greene, and Bentley is not arriv'd yet. The Prices of our Exports of Concern are as follows

Rice from 7 to 7¼ C. Tobacco from 9⅛ to 11 Skillins per lb.
Rum at 54 dollars per 60 Gallons quick sale.
Coffee 12 skillins per lb.
St. Petersburg Imports, hemp 20 Rubles per Birquet. [Berkovitz?]
Duck 9 to 14, Iron from 140 to 150 Copecks the Pode.
Tea at Copenhagen 30 skillin per lb.
difference of Exchange at Copenhagen,
6 dollars and 4 skillings the £ Sterling.
Rubles at St. Petersburg 29¼.

I shall immediately advise you on my arrival at St. Petersburg. In the Interim I remain, Sir, Your most Obedient Servant,

BEN: BAILEY

P. S. The English fleet of 30 Line of Battle Ships now are waiting at Spithead for the Ratification of the Proposals made by the King of England towards the Empress of Russia. The freight of hemp given in American Bottoms from St. Petersburg and Riga to London has been up to 4£ sterling per Ton occasion'd by the object of a war betwen the two Nations.

Price Current at present

Norward rum 2/8 very dull.
whale oil 1/2, duller
Iron in Barrs 20/ pr. Ct.
Duck 11 and 12 Dollers.
sugars from 48/. to 56.
Cheese from 4*d* and 5*d*.
Tobacco 12/
Rice great Plenty supos'd to brake from 9/ to 9/6.

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Cronstadt, July 13th, 1791.

Sir,

BY Capt. James Brown of the Ship *Hope*, I have the pleasure to inform you that I arriv'd at Elsinore on the 16th of last month and on the 17th got up to Copenhagen, from which I sail'd on the 25th and arriv'd in Cronstadt on the 1st Inst. My Cargo was all landed at Copenhagen in very good order, except one hogshead of Tobacco which came out something wet. Mr. Saabye proposed selling my Cargo with the Ship

Williams the sale of which was to commence in the course of ten days. his sudden expectations of more arrivals occasion'd the Time and Method of the Sale. I have advis'd you from Elsinore and Copenhagen by way of London, of my different arrivals but have not follow'd then with Copies as my passages have been very fortunately attended with favorable winds.

The prices of Exports of our Concern at Copenhagen are as follows vizt.

Rum at 54 dollars per 60 Gallons Quick Sale.
Rice at 7 to 7¼ per C.
Tobacco at 9 and ⅛ to 11 Skillin per lb.
Coffee at 24 . . . . . do. per do.
Imports. Tea at 30 Skillin per lb.
Bills on London 6 dollars and 4 skillins the £.

I have advis'd you on the 5th Inst. from St. Petersburg by way of London, a Copy of which I herewith transmit for your perusal.

Sir, I sail'd from Copenhagen on the 25th of June and arriv'd at St. Petersburg on the 1st Inst. the Goods are all purchas'd according to your Order as to Quality the prices are as follows vizt.

28 Tons of good clean hemp at 19 Rubles per Birquet.
N. Sable 492 Pds. of Assorted Iron 2½ by ½ at 180 Copecks
do. 63 do. of Square Iron of 1 inch square at 180 do.
O. Sable 169 do. of flat do. of 2¾ to 3 inch at 155 do.
N. Sable 410 do. of do. do. of 2 to 2½ do. at 180 do.
1134 Pds. equal to 18 Tons.
Which are as nigh the dimentions as possibly could be procur'd untill the 1st of September.
320 Pieces of Sail Cloth at 11 R. 40 Copecks
40 do. of do. do. at 10¼ R.
100 do. of do. do. at 11 R. 25 Copecks
460 Pieces.
50 Pieces Ravens duck at 10½ Rubles.
Diaper sells from 50 to 80 Copecks the asheen.

I have now all my Sail Cloth on board, and one quarter part of my hemp stow'd. If the weather proves favorable and the wind comes fair I shall leave Cronstadt by the 21st

of this month for Copenhagen, from thence I shall make all possible dispatch. I still remain Most truly, Sir, Your friend and Obedient Servant,

BEN: BAILEY

P. S. The Captains Pierce and Greene is not ariv'd yet. The americans which now lay in the mole are Captains Fuller of N. york; Greene of Salem; Wood of Newport; Brown of providence; Bailey of Newport.

hemp was yesterday up to 20¼ Quick Sale. difference of Exchange 29½.

[Endorsed,] Via Providence. By Capt. Brown of the Ship *Hope*.

MAY AND PAYSON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Baltimore, 27th November, 1791.

Sir,

WE have to acknowledge Receipt of your favor under date of 14th Inst. per Post, and observe the Contents. We can not advise your shiping to this Market a further Quantity of Russia Duck, for the purpose of an immediate sale. we find it a much duller article than we expected. since ours to you of 20th Inst. we have not sold a peice, however we still hope to compleat your sales before our Navigation closes with Ice. after this there will be little demand for it, and were you to make a further shipment, the probability is, that it would arrive at about that time, when all Business is stagnated, as respects a communication by Water. in the Spring we suppose there will be a demand but generally speaking we have ever found it to be an article of but slow sale. the present value of Ravens Duck is from 65/ to 67/6 per piece and in rather more demand than Russia, are of opinion that the Quantity you mention might readily be dispos'd of. We have made the necessary enquieries respecting Bills on London, find the present Exchange is 72½ per Ct. that is to say £172.10/ find this Currency for £100 Sterling, about 3½ per Ct. above par, the Bills at Sixty Days after Sight. the general opinion is that they will

continue at about this price. referring to our former Letters, very Respectfully, we are Your Obedient Humble Servants

May and Payson

Samuel Lawton to Christopher and George Champlin

Charleston, December 1st, 1791.

Gentlemen,

Troubling you with my third letter I make use of this oppertunity to inform you, I have sold a few hoghds. of rum at 2/8 but goes of very dull, as so many Vessels coming from the Eastward, and all bringing some makes it very dull sail here. as for the Oile if not sold for more then offerd at at present, I shall leve with Hazard and Robinson without I should have your orders to the contrary, as I shall apply to them for assistance in the sale of my Cargo, as it is impossible to sell any quantity without Credit; and it is difficult to trust here with out you are well acquainted with those People. I mean to do everything in my power for your Intrest, and by giveing up part of my Commision here is to your Intrest I dont doubt your Cargo will meete with no Disadvantage by it, so I shall rely on your generosity, and I flater my self you will be satisfied at my Return. Markets here much as when Capt. Tillinghast saild, rice 10/ at present Tobacco 12/ to 13/. Rice is thought to be lower after Christmas as ther is great Plenty this season. I remain your humble servant,

Samuel Lawton

P. S. I hope the Certificates will come before I sail.

[Endorsed,] favour'd by Capt. Minro.

Sailing Orders

Newport, December 1, 1791.

Capt. Benjamin Bailey,

You being Master of my Brigantine *Bayonne* now in the Harbour of Newport are to observe the following instructions. Proceed from hence with the first favourable wind

to Port au prince on Hispaniola, where dispose of your Cargo on the best terms you can, without giving any Credit, if it is possible, and invest the Nett Proceeds in a Cargo of good Molasses at least 130 Hhds. but if your Cargo amounts to more than you can bring in Molasses, in that case invest so much of it in Sugar as will improve the whole of the Nett Proceeds of your outward-bound Cargo, so that the Brig: may be fully loaded. when this is done return to Newport with all dispatch. from the situation of Hispaniola difficulties may arrise to counter act your intentions and these Instructions. in that case you must act as circumstances will admit, from time to time as you find them most for my Interest. from the deranged state of their trade, you may obtain permission to sell some of your goods at Leogan, St. Marks etc. and by Sugar and Molasses there. if so you must do it if safe, and advantage will arrise from it. from the distress of Trade many persons circumstances have been injured. be very cautious in whose hands you place any of your Cargo, and that your business be negotiated at seven and one half per Cent including your Commission. as your Cargo is well assorted, some of your goods must be in demand. push the sale if they are so, as many Cargoes may be on your back. If more Molasses Hhds. and Teirces is required your Cooper must make them. as from the present prospect it will be requisite to save every expense possible to prevent a loosing voyage. Write me often and always send Copies of your letters. remember to bring good Sugar if to be had, as they pay no more duty than bad. confiding in your prudence and that you run no risks unavoidable, I wish you Success. Your Friend and Owner,

CHRIS: CHAMPLIN

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Port au prince, December 26th, 1791.

Sir,

I HAVE just now arriv'd here leaving my vessel 9 miles below this port, and have horrid news to tell you. the

greater part of this place was consumed by fire on the third of this month by the mulatoes. Nothing sells here at any rate, the policy I have made use of was to come on shore in my boat to gain information of trade. if I should have come in my vessel permission would have not been given me to go out.

I have consulted many masters from our Continent who advise me by all means for your interest not to come in. Likewise have consulted Mr. Stiles a worthy Gentleman who advises me to go to some of the out ports and sell what I can of my cargo. I shall try St. marques first then intend going to a place below call'd St. Jeremy from thence to the au Cayes (If I can here any thing favorable from there). produce may be got here for ready cash. there are now several Vessels here with fish and flour but there has not been to the amount of 40 Barrels of flour nor 12 hhds of dry fish sold here this three weeks. all the americans are filld with blacks and whites to the amount of 15 or 20 each. the mulatoes are encamp'd 9 miles from here. 150 Troops arriv'd here last night from france but thats a mere handfull to the mulatoes whose camp consists of upwards of 2000. assuring you I shall consult every proceeding that I undertake for your Interest I remain Your Obedient Servant

BEN : BAILEY

P. S. there is a great deal of provision here on hand. nothing is in demand but hoops and poultry. the Vessels now here with provision would be glad to leave but cannot get permission to depart at any terms.

[Memo.] Rec'd via N Y February 17. 1792.

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Port au prince, December 26th, 1791.

Sir,

I ARRIV'D here this day have horrid News to tell you. The greater part of this place was consum'd by fire on the 3d Inst. and it is now in the greatest confusion. Nothing sells except Poultry and Lumber, all communication between

the town and Country stop'd and no expectation of a Reconciliation between them very soon. from 20 to 30 Sail of americans in this port and no demand for any produce except such as I have mention'd. a Captain from Portland tells me he hant sold but 4 hhds. of fish for three weeks past. Three captains who have flour tell me they all have not sold but 37 barrels in 14 days.

Over 2000 Mulatoes encamp'd within 9 miles of this place. Last night 150 Troops were landed from on board a frigate lately from france.

The policy I made use of was to go on shore in my Boat otherways I could have not come away as there is now an Embargo. I shall sail immediately for St. Marc. Intend trying to sell some of my Cargo and from thence call at Jeremie (a port to leward) from thence go to Aux Cayes. Assuring you of my attention and the greatest towards your Interest I am, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

BEN: BAILEY

The Original I wrote by way of N. york. cannot assure you this is exactly word for word as I was in great haste to get on board my Vessel it being 10 miles below.

15 January.

A frigate arriv'd this day from Port au prince with orders for all Strangers in this port to sail for Port au prince. We have sollicited the Captain to permit us to stay being in number four. he says we must comply with his orders. We carry our permissions along with us which were given by the authority of this place permitting us to trade therefore the censure will not be greater than if we had been at Port au prince our Entrys being legal. The Captain of the Frigate appears very polite on the occasion. I have therefore thought proper to leave some of my Goods in the hands of Mr. Louis de Tollenace for sale which are

10 hhds.	fish	10 Tierces	mackarel
2 Tierces	Rice	8 do.	Oil
2 do.	pork	11 Boxes	Candles.
4 do.	herring		

My reasons for the above are thus — Port au prince is 14 leagues from St. Marc, so situated that we may pass safe in our Boats without the least Risk and I am afraid Goods are very dull at port au prince. I shall endeavour to force the sales of what I carry along with me, and take all my empty hogsheads which are made striving to make all the dispatch I possibly can. I am most truly Sir Your Obedient Servant

B. B.

Molasses 17 to 18
Sugar at 70 to 73
Coffee at 18s per lb.
Cotton 180 li per Cwt.
Indigo at 10 li to 14 li per lb.

I shall sail for port au prince to morrow. by a Vessal from the cape we are told ther's a ship arriv'd from france who had sail'd before a fleet which had 18000 troops on board bound for this Island.

I have seen a Gentleman who left au Cayes the 15th Ulto. he tells me they were in the greatest confusion but had plenty of provisions of all kinds. it was thought the town would run great risks of being burn'd.

St. Marc, January 21st, 1792.

Sir I arriv'd of this port on the 28th Ultimo, went on shore and was positively assur'd by what was told me that I could sell my herrings Oil and Candles to a profit which was an object of attention for selling some other articles which consists my Cargo. I accordingly anchor'd by the permission of the authority in writing, and commenced business putting some of my Goods in the hands of Mr. Louis de Tollenace a reputable Merchant recommended by two Captains who are at the same house.

I am much disappointed in regard to the dull sales but God knows where and in what part of this Island our produce is worth any thing as every port is fill'd with provisions of all kinds and Cash exceeding scarce.

The Goods sold are as follows viz.

76 barrels herrings at 3 to 3½ dollars.
9 Boxes Candles at ½ . . do. per lb.
8 Barrels Beef at 7 to 8 . do.

3 hhds. Tobacco at 4½ to 5 do. per Cwt.
10 do. [Cod]fish at 3 to 2¾ do. per do.
4 Barrels mackarel at 4½ . do.
1 do. pork . . . at 13 . do.
40 do. flour . . . at 7 . do.
900 Staves . . . . at 450 li per M.
A small proportion of onions which was in bad order being badly made up.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Port au prince, January 28th, 1792.

Sir, I left St. marc's the 23 arriv'd here on yesterday found Marketts as dull as when I left here and but little business a doing, have got my Vessel legally enter'd and must now submit to patience as there is a prospect of trade when the troops arrive which are expected daily. Young Mr. Forbes is here whom I would recommend to your particular attention he having been very kind to render me many little services. there will be plenty of produce to be got when the Country opens and our Goods will be in great demand. The standing Troops have made a number of sorties out and kill'd a number of Mulatoes. there is not one to be seen in the streets. they have lately establish'd the martial law to quell the mobs which have been very riotous. I shall begin my purchase as soon as in my power lies. can't inform you when I shall sail. I am Sir Your Obedient Servant

B. Bailey

Our Goods no particular price being in no demand.
Molasses 18 li on board
Sugar 70 li to 75 li.
Coffee 18s per lb.
42 Sail of americans in port. Captains here from Newport Boss and Huntington.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Port au prince, February 1st, 1792.

Sir,

I wrote you last via Newburyport which you'll receive before this comes to hand. I remain in the same disagreeable situation as when I wrote. Nothing but destruction

and murder are the politics of this Colony. Yesterday a brig arriv'd from au Cayes with her outward Cargo and to day another both americans. the negroes and mulatoes are killing all the white people whose habitations lay within their command, trade is as dull as at this place, Jaquemel is burn'd and a part of the buildings along the coast (to leward). This day there is a ship arriv'd from the cape. The advices are that a frigate is at the cape lately from france who sail'd in company with 2 Ships of the line 3 frigates 5 transports 6000 Troops bound for this Island having on board 40,000 dollars.

Molasses is exceeding scarce and hard to be got as none can be purchas'd only what comes in by water. Goods of our Country still in no demand. I have sold only 1 hhd. of fish since I arriv'd from St. Marc. Mr. Forbes's with many other opinions are that as soon as the troops arrive the country will be open'd and trade will flourish rapidly for some time after.

However it is exceeding tedious to be so confin'd and do no business, but as soon as an opportunity offers to my advantage I shall eagerly embrace it striving to make all the dispatch I can. I am most truly, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

BEN : BAILEY

P. S. there is a number of Vessels here with provisions who have not broke bulk.

American Goods no price being in no demand.
Sugar 68 li to 70 li (Molasses 17 li to 19 li 10s at the plantations).
Coffee 20s. Cotton 190 li per Cwt.

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Port au prince, February 8th, 1792.

Sir,

I HAD forwarded the inclos'd but unfortunately the Vessel which had the advices on board was brought in again by a Revenue Cruiser, in consequence of having some Goods on board that were not legally clear'd at the office.

We still remain neuter and Commerce as dull as heretofore. I was down to Leogane last week but met with no success in regard to purchasing molasses. I intend going to St. marc's very soon to settle my affairs. at my return shall at once more effectually endeavour to expend what monies I may have to part with.

I had forgot to mention the commissary who arriv'd from the Cape on the 30th Ultimo. he is commission'd by the National assembly at home to settle a Treaty of peace in this Colony, which gives us great hopes that he will accomplish his business to the satisfaction of both Parties. No Passports have been handed out to day. the reason are not accounted for. as soon as the municipality renews those liberties I shall immediately apply to go to St. marc's as I think what Goods I left there must be dispos'd of. This day has been the most peacable of any I have experienced since I arriv'd. to day two Vessels are clear'd to depart with their Cargoes consisting of Beef pork fish etc. in ballast the highest price for dry fish at Martinaco was 20 li other Goods in proportion.

I have sold from on board since my arrival

3 hhds. fish at $2\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per Cwt.
2 Tierces Oil at 55 Sou per Gallon.

landed to a store. since sold 4 Barrels herring at 3 dollars. Assuring you of my utmost attention towards your Interest I am Sir, Your Obedient Servant

Benjamin Bailey

Boss has not sold to the amount of 100 dollars of his in board Cargo.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Port au Prince, February 24th, 1792.

Sir,

Since my last advice I have been to St. Marc found my Goods were all sold except 2 Tierces of Rice 6 Casks of oil which I dispos'd of at the following prices viz.

1 Tierce of Rice at Lo. 28. 17.6 per Cwt.
1 do. . of do. . at 30.––.– per do.
3 do. . of Oil at 2. 5.– per Gallon
1 do. . of do. at 2. 9.– per do.

The other two Tierces unsold brought here in my boat. My Goods which were already sold commanded the following Prices, viz.

9 hhds. fish . . at Lo. 24. 15.– per Cwt.
11 boxes s. candles at 4. 2.– per lb.
2 barrels pork . at 94. 17.6 per bbl.
4 do. herring . . at 28. 17.6 . . . .
11 do. mackarel . at 33.––.–
2 Tierces oil . . at 2. 10.– per Gallon
Onions to the amount of 24. 15.–.

Since I first arriv'd at port au prince from St. marc I have sold

15 hhds. of fish at Lo. 20.12.6 to 24.15. per C[wt.]
35 barrels herring at 24.15 per bbl.
6 do. Mackarel at 33. to 35.1.3.
4 Tierces of Oil at 2.15 per Gall.
6 Boxes of candles at 3.15. to 4 li per lb.

and the remainder of my Onions. I have begun to load with 11 hhds. of molasses. in the course of 10 days shall have 40 more.

Molasses has got up to 19 li in consequence of a number of Vessels which are come here from other ports to load.

Lighterage is very high and hard to be commanded. Our situations are discouraging in regard to commerce. since the arrival of the commissary they have been very quiet both sides. There still remains a number of Vessels with provisions which have not broke bulk. If I can obtain permission I shall go down the coast and endeavour to sell my pickled fish in order to shorten my Voyage which will be much longer than I expected. Mr. Boss still remains with his cargo unsold and but a trifle more prospect of selling than what has been. the plains are open to bring in molasses and sugar but no Goods are allow'd to be transported from hence as yet.

Striving to make all the dispatch I can I am most truly Sir Your Obedient Servant

Benjamin Bailey

[Endorsed,] By Capt. Tew.

May and Payson to Christopher Champlin

Baltimore, 3d March, 1792.

Dear Sir,

We shou'd long since have advis'd you of haveing made a sale of your Russia Duck 30th December last, but the person to whom we sold leaveing town immediately after, and knowing a part of the Duck to be staind, we wish'd to have the Business perfectly setled before we advis'd you. the price sold at was ten and half Dols. on a Creddit of ninety days. Mr. McCreery the person to whom we sold, is now in Town, and have examin'd the Duck, find say, thirty Bolts out of fifty to be staind, and injur'd, so as to prejudice the Sale. have not yet perfectly setled the Business but hope to in a few days and will advise you the result. Your esteem'd Favors of 23d January and 1st February were duly received and the Contents noted. our Mr. Payson haveing wrote you from Boston, and the foregoing reasons, will excuse our not replying to them before. we observe the rapid rise of Russia Duck at your Market, and cou'd now wish we had not made so early a sale of yours, but cou'd not foresee the present scarcity and demand. we have annex'd you the present state of our markets, but they are not accurate, business is exceeding dull and markets are very unsettled, goods vary in price as particular Necessaty may render a sale unavoidable. it is expected that alterations will take place as soon as our Navigation opens, which from present appearances will be in a few days. there are many Vessels below and no doubt we shall have a fresh supply of different kinds of Goods. with much Respect We are Your Obliged and Obedient Servants

May and Payson

Flour Superfine	36/ to 37/	do. Hemp	6*d*. dull.
do. fine	34/ to 35/.	Whale Oyl	2/2 to 2/4 per Gallon.
Wheat	7/6	Tanners do	9 Dols. per Bbl.
Indian Corn	3/6 to 3/8	Candles Dip'd	9½ to 10*d*.
Bar Iron	33 £ per Ton.	do. Mould	12*d*
W. I. Rum	6/6 to 7/3	do. Sperm Ceti	3/ to 3/3. dull
N. E. do.	4/8 to 4/11	Sole Leather	15 to 16*d*.
Sugars	5.10 to £6.7.6	Cotton	2/3 to 2/6. very scarce.
Molasses	3/8 to 3/9	Raisins	7½ Dollars.
Bohea Tea	2/8 to 2/9	Pepper	3/6 to 3/9.
Coffee	18 to 20*d*.	Pymento	15*d*. to 17*d*. dull
Chocolate	12*d*.	Cheese, Country	7 to 8*d*. if good.
Beef	50/ to 52/6	Flax	none at market.
Pork, Northern	11 to 12 Dols.	Barley	5/ scarce.
do., Southern	9 Dols.	Bees Wax	2/.
Russia duck	90/.		

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Port au prince, March 10th, 1792.

Sir

Since my last advice by Capt. Tew I have the pleasure to inform you that I have sold all my Goods except 4 barrels mackarel 7 do. herrings 3 Boxes S. Candles 4 Casks Oil. have on board 48 hhds. Molasses and have sent out 26 more to fill. To morrow if I can procure a permit I shall embark with 14 hhds. more where I am sure to get them fill'd with molasses and shall load as fast as possible. Molasses is scarce the price remains at 19 li per C. The politics of this Island still remain in a confus'd state. No Troops arriv'd here yet. The Commissary is now at Leogane in order to treat with the mulatoes he is expected to return to morrow. The Negroes about Leogane are revolted and God knows what will be the final Issue. You may easily suppose I am anxious to depart assuring you I shall make all dispatch I am Sir your Obedient Servant

Benjamin Bailey

P. S. If no ill consequence happens I shall sail by the 25th of this month.

[Endorsed,] Via Newbedford. By Capt. Jenny.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Port au prince, March 16th, 1792.

Sir,

Since my last advice of the Date of the 15th Inst. by Capt. Jenney of the Brig *Polly* belonging to Newbedford fresh difficulties have occur'd which are, on the 12th the town of Leogane was closely besieg'd by the Negroes from the Mountains but were repuls'd by the whites and Mulatoes (after burning 5 houses). They then retreated to the plains setting fire to all the plantations and burning every thing before them. On the 13th at 4 in the morning they made the second attack but were driven back again. the Loss on both sides according to the best informations which are not regular are over 2 thousand. we have learned nothing new to day. the consequences of this fatal stroke are all pasports have been stop'd this five days and we understand none are to be given only to the french merchants, for the future. Molasses is up at 20 li per C. The people at the helm of Government affairs seem determin'd on the Ruin of this Colony and Island. I have 60 hhds. of good Molasses on board have 30 more empty in the country to fill. I wrote you in my last letter that I should embark the next day with 14 empty hhds. to fill but my designs are frustrated, in consequence of what has happen'd since. If the plains of port au prince should meet the fate with those at Leogane the Island is ruin'd, which God grant may not be the case as it will be exceeding hard for the poor planters who deserve pity by all who have the least sentiment of feeling for their Distresses.

What Goods I have on board unsold are 3 boxes of S. Candles, 4 Casks of oil, and 8 barrels of herrings. You may rely on my utmost exertions to make all the dispatch I possibly can for sailing and if I am not defeated in my intentions I shall depart from this disagreeable port by the last of this Month. I am most truly, Sir Your Obedient Servant,

Benjamin Bailey

[Endorsed,] Via Newyork. By Capt. Worth.

Sailing Orders

Newport, May 22th, 1792.

Capt. Benjamin Bailey.

You being Master of my Brig *Bayonne*, are to observe the following Instructions. Proceed with all Dispatch to Copenhagen, when you arrive, deliver your Cargo into the hands of Messrs. Ryberg and Co. Merchants there, to whom you are consigned. Balast your Vessel with dispatch, and proceed to St. Petersburg, taking with you Messrs. Ryberg and Co. letter of Credit upon the House of Messrs. Edward James Smith and Co. to furnish you on my account with Russian goods, conformable to my Memorandum, enclosed them, a Copy of which you have herewith. pay the greatest attention to choosing the articles. as Peace is restored I flatter my self Duck may be had, very good at 11. Rubles. procure all the narrow flat Iron you can. some of $2\frac{3}{4}$ Inch will be required. when you stow the Brig let all the Duck be put under the lower Deck, and, when your Business is finished return to Copenhagen with dispatch, where take on board such Tea as Messrs. Ryberg and Co. may deliver you to balance my account, which quantity you may nearly fix upon by the price your Rum and other articles may sell at according to the last Sale. I would have you converse with Mr. Saaby, respecting the time of Selling. my Cargo being small I have requested it sold alone, as I suppose it best. large quantities up for sale at a time often reduces the price. besides I think your Rum much better than any Rum shipped from Boston or Providence. take the utmost care in chusing new Tea and good, as we have received some rotten and mouldy Tea in Lawtons voyage from thence.

By no means omit having three correct Manifests of home Cargo made out soon after your Sailing from Copenhagen to be in readiness for the Custom house boats. Run no risks of Seizure. be frugal in your expences. fail not to obtain from Mr. Saaby Certificates for landing the rum and Coffee, to cancell our bonds.

Buy me at Copenhagen Two oval dishes deep blue and

white China, 21. inch. long. Two ditto 19. inch. long or as near them lengths as possible, and deeper blue than the Pattern.

Write me by every opportunity. Wishing you Success, I am, Your Friend and owner

CHRIS : CHAMPLIN

BENJAMIN BAILEY TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Elsinore, July 5th, 1792.

Sir,

I HAVE the pleasure to inform you that I arriv'd below Elsinore in the Sound to day, the wind being a head I was oblig'd to anchor and am now on Shore at Mr. Fenwicks to clear. a prospect of having a wind very soon offers which I shall immediately embrace at the first opportunity. Nothing material has happen'd during my passage in regard to the Ship. the tenth day after my leaving Newport John Southwick fell from the Mast head which fall broke his left thigh but he is in a fair way to recover (the accident.) My prospect of being here in 36 days was good when I first came out but having contrary wind was retarded. I am the twentieth and eight American that has enter'd the Baltic this season. Mr. Fenwick tells me hemp is at 19 Rubles at St. Petersburg, the price of canvas he is not inform'd. I cannot inform you in regard to the price of american Goods at Copenhagen but shall advise you with the price thereof on my arrival there, assuring you of my greatest exertions in regard to dispatch. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant,

BENJAMIN BAILEY

the *Bayonne* proves very tight by no means leaky.

P. S. The wind now begins to veer Westward, so I am in hopes of getting to Copenhagen to morrow.

Benjamin Bailey to Christopher Champlin

Copenhagen, August 27th, 1792.

Sir,

I now have the pleasure to inform you of my arrival from St. Petersburg on the 24th Inst. and am now awaiting for 40 Chests of Tea the greater part of which is purchas'd at 28¾*s* per lb. am in hopes to have it all on board to morrow.

My hemp was bought at 18½ R :

Iron at 160 Co. Ravens duck at 10¼ R :

156 ps. Sail cloth good at 18½ R :

52 do. do. at 16 R : No more Sailcloth could be obtain'd although the prices were so exceeding high, although if I could have procur'd the whole which was order'd I could not consistent with your Interest have taken it as it was merely throwing money away to buy at such exorbitant prices. my Cargo remains unsold in consequence of the Quantity of Goods at market and low prices. however Mr. Saabye thinks the next sales will command better prices than the last. I am in hopes to get away on Thursday next. In expectation of being with you by the first of November I remain, Sir, Your Obedient Servant,

Benjamin Bailey

[Endorsed,] Via Providence. By Captain Read.

Port Charges.

For Captain Benjamin Bayley here at Copenhagen, Vizt.
AO. 1792. Rds. St.

Inwards

July 6.

To Stamp Paper	.18.
" Haven Duty of 43 Last at 24 St.	21.24.
" Custom House Officers fees	.46.
" Ston Dolphin and Accise at 3 St.	2.33.
" The Light of the Netz	2.--
" The Controleurs and Officers	1.20.
" The Commandant and Clarck	.32.
" Sundry Expencis in all The Offices	2.8.
" The Boatsvain and People at the Boom	.24.
" Town House Clearing and Officers	3.--

Outwards

" 11.	To Stamp Paper	.18.
	" The Controleurs and Officers	.40.
	" The Commandant and Clarck	.36
	" Sundry Expencis in all the Offices	2. 4.
	" The Boatsvain and people at the Boom	.24.
	" The Admiral for Mustering	1.--
	" a Man to Dragoe for a Pillot	.24.
	" Our Brokerage	5.—

Rds. 46.15 St.

Copenhagen, the 28 Aug't, 1792.

M. Jurgensen and Momsen.

John Bartlett to William Ellery

Nantucket, 14 September, 1792.

Dear Sir,

I received your kind favour of the 10th Inst. by Miss Cady, for which and your attention to my affair I heartily thank you. On October 22d 1777 I left the Army at Albany in order to return home for the winter for the recovery of the use of my arm which was badly fractur'd, by a formal written permit from General Gates, who also ordered me a Waggon for my Baggage and gave me an order to call on any and every body for such assistance as I should need on the Road. Early the next Spring I wrote to Doctor Potts, the Deputy Director General for the N. Department; wishing his orders. I received no answer. I sat out therefore without any particular orders and joined the Army at the White Plains, at which place and at Harrison's Purchase near by I spent that season in the flying Hospital.

In the Summer following, that is in 1779 you brought a letter from Doctor Shippen, ordering me to repair to Fish Kil and superintend the Hospitals in that vicinity which I immediately complied with. From that time to the time of the new arrangement I held myself in readiness to comply with, and execute any orders that I might receive. From that time to this, I have received no orders altho' I have repeatedly wrote to Dr. Shippen from the Army, wishing to know if he had any new commands for me. I used to join

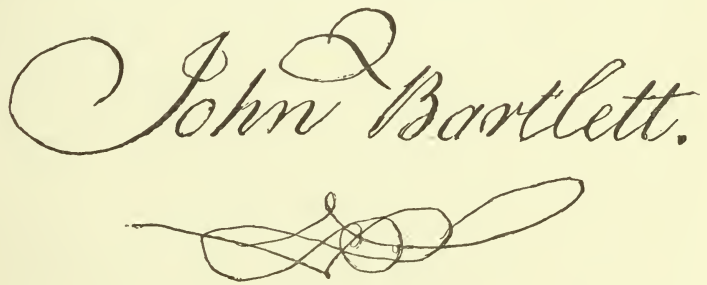
the Army on summons and apply for orders but received none, but the answer was this, viz. that there were so many Doctors since the three divisions of the Army were joined, that it was difficult to assign districts to them all.

I never was broke, reprimanded or so much as blamed for any misconduct in my public capacity during the war.

There was a Thomas Tillotson, whom Doctor Potts had put to act in my room, before that I joined the Army in 1777, who was always my secret enemy, and wished me out of the way that he might be Physician and Surgeon General in my room. This man practiced every mischief in his power against me.

In the new arrangement I was amongst the deranged. Up to which time I claim a right to my Wages and Rations. The date of that period I cannot exactly tell, without adverting to the Journals of Congress, which I am not possessed of.

As soon as I can come at the date of the new arrangement, I can make out my account properly, which I shall do and forward it to Congress, accompanied with the petition. In the mean time I wish my compliments to be made to Mrs. Ellery and you Sir, may rest assured, that I remain your sincere Friend and very Humble Servant,



Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Charlston, January 24th, 1793.

Sir,

I AM all ready for sailing only wate for a wind to get under way. I have taken on board 97 whole and 6 half Cask of Rice and 12 Barrels of Tarr on your account. as for the

Lumber I could not get it unless I gave from 14 to 15 Dollers per thousand. as for Beans there is none to be bought in Charlston at present so that with the Rice and five hogh'ds Tobacco and the Tarr with the cargo brought out I shall sail as soon as I can get out. by the latest accounts from Highspanola the times are very dull there. I shall endeaver to do the best I can. I wrote by Capt. fry the price of rice. I must refer you to Mr. Robinsons letter comes with this about the goods I had of him here. I remain yours,

SAM'L LAWTON

SAMUEL LAWTON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Porter Prince, february 15, 1793.

Sir,

THESE may inform you of my arivel here in 17 days from Charlston and am sorry to inform you the badness of the times here on acount of the Blacks revolting from their masters and have burnt a great number of Plantations a few days ago. I inform'd a few days before I got in that the Cape was all up in arms and the armey gone out and no business done there so I came here and find [all] full as bad here or wors and the south side [in] as much Confusion as here the armey went out here a few days ago. the Blacks burnt a great many Plantations here a few days ago and what we all shall do here God only noes. not one Vessel is allow'd to go from here that has got any Provisions on board and nothing scarsely will sell here. here is now in Port 68 sail of Americans. I have sold but one Cask of Rice yet all that I have sold is the chief of the Tobacco for 5 and 5½ Dollers and the few bbls. Tarr for 4 and 4½ Dollers not one box Candels nor any thing else on board is sold and when I shall sail from here I no not no more then the Dead. if I could sell my Cargo I shall not trouble you with any molasses it being so scarce and high, bring chiefly Coffe and a little suger and take in ballast. I have offerd my rice for 22 Levers to take a quantity. no boddy will buy. Sir, I remain yours,

SAM'L LAWTON

Price Current

Good when sold
Rice from 22 to 26 Livers Plenty
Spermicetia Candles from 4½ to 6 Livers Plenty
Oil from 50 to 55 sou. Plenty and dull.
Beef from 6 to 7 Doll. Plenty and dull.
Tobacco from 5 to 4½ scarce.
Tarr from 5 to 4½ scarce.
Lumber, 13 Dollar Plenty and dull
Mackrel if good 3½ Dol. dull
Long staves 14 and 18 Dol. do.

Produce at Present

Molasses 31 Livers hogd. 3 dol. scarce.
Coffe from 16 to 19.
Sugar from 60 to 78.

[Endorsed,] favourd by Cap. Church.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Porter prince, March 2d, 1793.

Sir,

I FURTHER inform you by this oppertunity of the two letters I wrote before one dated the 16th and one the 27th of my arivel here and the dullness of Trade likewise all kind of amarican produce very plenty indeed as for my Cargo the rice is chiefly sold and glad to get 22 Livers per Ct. there is now in Port 600 Cask for sale some of the Oil on hand and the chief of the Candels not sold. I shall begin to ballast soon. I shall try to sail by the 20th if possible or the last of this month. my Tobacco all sold and Tarr, some Beef on hand yet. as for molasses I think it so high that the last accounts from home will not do to purchase here at 30 and 31.10 besides the Cask. Plenty of poor Coffe and sugar for sail Coff from 16 to 19 sou sugar from 66 to 78. I shall endeavour to get some of the Candles sold before I sail. a very dull place here for Candels and what Rauthbone brought here has suply'd the market and now here is in Port Minro and Pirce from Providence with a great quantity of them. Sir I remain your humble Servant

Sam'l Lawton

Prices Current

Beef 7 Dol.
Pork 12 to 12½
flour super. 7 Dol.
Rice 21.10 to 22 Liver dull
Spermiceti Cand. ½ Dol.
Mackrel 3½ to four Dol.
Oil 52.12.6 dull.
Tobacco 5 to 5½
Tarr 4 to 4½
Molasses 30 to 31.10
Sugar 66 to 78.
Coff. 16 to 19 sou.

[Endorsed,] favored by Cap. Baker.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Porterprince, March 11, 1793.

Sir

I IMBRACE this oppertunity as this Vessel sails for Newyork I acquaint you I am in hopes to sail in about 10 or 12 days as my cargo is mostly sold times are very dull here yet and great Plenty of American produce from all parts coming in daily. I shall bri[n]g you about 10 or 12 hogst. Molasses by way of ballast that will cost 31 Livres per C. and the cask 3 Dollers the remainder of the cargo in Coffe I have sold the Chief of the rice as I wrote you before for 22 Livres by Capt. Baker dated 2d Inst. since that most all the oil at 50 Sue. 30 boxes Candles sold at Luegan for £3.15. I would a ballast with salt but I think the Brig makes to much water to venture with it. I have got on board a few hogh'd molasses a bout 7000 wt Coffe cost from 16 to 18 sue. the remainder I shall purchase in a few days and some stone ballast. there is more or less Plantations burning every night by the Negroes while I am now writing there is two on fire not many miles of. I shall be very glad to get away from here. I may write once more before I sail. as for the Price Current much the same or wors then the last. Sir I remain your humble Servant

SAM'L LAWTON

Sir, Plese to inform my family we are all well on board.

S. L.

[Endorsed,] favourd by Capt. Barnad.

Elsinore the 10 July 1793

Capt. Samuel Lawton

Jo. William Fenwick Dr.

For Portcharges in the Sound viz.

Lightmoney for the Ship and Cargo	106. 3. 2.
Passmoney and Customhouse Officers fees	2. 18
Translator	— 32
Searcher	1. 30
Guard Ship	— 4.
British Poormoney and Church	— —
Commission	— 24
Extra	— —
Crowns	10. 15.
Agio Current a 3 Stivers	— 31
Danish Current	10. 16

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Elsinore, July 10th, 1793.

Sir,

These may inform you of my safe arivel here in forty three days and a very unpleasant Passage we had of it for Easterly weather with rain and fog for 28 days. I dont think I shall go further then Copenhagen by what I can larn from Petersbourg it will be so much later and my Vessel not so fit to come home that time of year for she is not quite tight yet. I shall wright more perticular soon. I spoke with Capt. Beckford as I come in bound for Salem. will write you of my being here likewise, Sir, I remain yours

Sam'l Lawton

Please to acquaint my family we are all well on board.
S. L.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Copenhagen, July 17th, 1793.

Sir,

I inform'd you by Capt. Bickford bound for Salem of my arivel in 43 days passage. I have got all my Cargo landed and have concluded to load here as the Brig proves somwhat leakey and my coming on the Coast so much later in the fall I think it most prudent to make what dispach I can. as for the markits of Goods here and Petersbourg is no great object for a small Vessel and she growing old I can perceve when blowing hard she begins to complain. I have made a Calculation and find I can load here at the following Prices swedish Iron £13 to 15 sterling Ton, Duck from 12½ to 13½ Rix Dollars Ravins Duck about 9½ hemp 16 and 17 skd. I think to fall short in the Canvas as the Duck has rizen in the price more then the other goods. I have received a letter from Mr. Smith concerning the Coffe. he wrote in april and there is a great quantity gone up sence that here. I think it will fetch 28 or 29 sk. rum no sail yours unsold last year. Mr. Tobey has got 500 hoghd. on

hand. Tobacco at about 6 and 7 sk. no rice to market. the last sold sence I bin here for 6½ and 6¾. I shall begin to take in tomorrow. I shall write soon and be able to inform you the Quantity I shall purchace.

the last sails of rum sold a few days ago as low as 38 Rix Dollers for 60 gallons. I shall write again in a few days by Capt. Dexter bound for Philadelphia. Sir, I remain your humble servant

SAM'L LAWTON

[Endorsed,] honrd Capt. Bartlet.

RYBERG AND CO. TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Copenhagen, the 31st July, 1793.

Sir,

WE beg your kind referance to our respects of the 16th Inst. of which please to receive inclosed duplicate, and Capt. Lawton will hand you Triplicate of the Certificates of the Rum and Coffee by him. We transmit you this by him and wish the *Bayonne* may have a prosperous Voyage and the Cargo come to a favourable markett. You'll please to inform yourself from the inclosed Bill of Lading and Invoice of the goods shipt on board and we beg you'll please to credit us the amount Rix 8897.65s dcry [Danish currency?] likewise Rix 98.55s dcry furnishd Capt. Lawton for Ships use.

The goods we hope will give satisfaction with respect to Quality and we flatter ourselves it will be agreable that the *Bayonne* loaded here. we have used our utmost exertions for purchasing good quality articles at the lowest Prices. We have already found opportunity to dispose of your Coffee at 28s[killings] per li. which we hope will leave you a good advantage and as soon as possible we shall wait upon you with account Sales, likewise of Capt. Baileys Rum from a p as we shall endeavour to dispose of what remains the 9th next month. It is quite contrary to our wishes that the demand for your Goods is this year so small, rice is the only article demanded and we think the price will raise. Capt. Lawtons Tobacco from a p is now delivred the Purchasers

and we shall send you a/s [account sales] by the very first opportunity. You were pleased last year to order by Capt. Lawton a piece of muslin and Handkerchiefs. till of late we have not been able to procure it Capt. Lawton has now received it, and we hope it will find Approbation. it costs the muslin and the Handkerchiefs Rix 54.8 but the diaper you direct'd Capt. Lawton to get could not be procured so wide, and he thought therefore best not to buy any narrow. We have credited your account for the Freight of the 12 Hhds. Tobacco shipt by the *Bayonne* £27.12 at 6 Rix 12/. and when your goods are sold we hope the Ballance either way will be not great. Having nothing further to add we remain very respectfully, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servants,

RYBERG AND CO.

EDWARD FORBES TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Dublin, 14th August, 1793.

Sir,

HAVING none of your esteemd favors to reply to, in order to Ballance your Account I have drawn on you for the same at sight to the order of Messrs. Samuel Fowler and Son being £0.19.4 Irish to pay them a little Ballance in their favor. The unparraleld failures througout G. Britain with some in this Country, together with the War with France hath had a very bad Effect on our Trade, which caus'd a great Scarcity of Money and much diffidence amongst traders and manufacturers, and in place of riseing, has had the contrary effect, and lowerd the Prices of Ashes in particular, and our Linen trade has in particular received a considerable Shock and reduced the prices of the lower kinds to 19½*d* and under full 2*d* per yard and the finer is fallen in proportion, nor do I think they will mend untill there is Peace, which at present appears very distant. Annexd are the prices current of your products and am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD FORBES

1st Pot Ashes 33/ to 34/ per Ct. } a great quantity of both on hands and expected
Pearls in no Demand so ever. } still lower.

Tar 20/. Pitch 25/. per bbl. but will lower when there is peace. Turpentine 9/ per Ct. Beeswax 20*d* to 22*d* per lb.

Lumber, say pine boards 14/ per 120 feet. Oak Timber £4 per Ton. Good inch Oak Boards well squared and free from Sap 20/ per Ct. Oak Bark is in no estimation particularly the Ground our Tanners now decline to buy it on account of there finding former parcells much adulterated.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Cape François, February 9th, 1794.

Sir,

AFTER informing you by sundry letters before of my arivel here in 18 days passang I am still laying here yet my cargo being all sold that will sell here and the Cash on board except the 140 Barrels flower and 7 Cask of rice administration has taken away by the force of arms from me. I have got nothing for it as yet and I am afraid I never shall for they are in such confusion there is very little prospect from them. I shall lay here a while longer to se what I can do. I have got all my Cask sot up and fild with salt water for ballast and [sails] and have bin ready to sail this five weekes if they had paid for my flower and I dont se no more prospect nay not so much as a month ago as fort Dolphin is in possession of the Spanyard. I am not concluded yet what to do to go to Leward or not but I believe I shall sail for home in ballast. I remain yours,

Sam'l Lawton

Plese to inform my family we are all well on board.

[Endorsed,] Per Capt. Carver.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Cape François, February the 19th, 1794.

Sir,

I MUST trouble you once more, to inform you of my laying here yet wating for my pay for the Rice and flower the administration took away from me, by the force of arms, as I inform'd you by sundry letters wrote you before, and of

my being ready to sail this five weekes had they paid me. I have concluded rather then leve it behind to take old Iron for pay, for that is all the pay I can get and that at £25 Livers per hundred, which will amount to 14 or 15 Ton at least. I mean to sail as soon as I can get that, what time that will be I no not perhaps 10 days or 15 days. I am not concluded as yet where to go, as times are so very dificult here there is not one in port can conclud on any thing. I beleve I shall sail for home but what port I shall arive to God only noes for I dont, I am sure. I have got pay for 70 Barrels of flower in Cash at 8 Doller, the remainder due will amount to the qu[a]ntity above of Iron and bad anough it is. Nothing more at present. I remain yours,

SAM'L LAWTON

Plese to inform my family we are all well.

[Endorsed,] favored by Cap. Gilbert.

SAMUEL LAWTON TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Kingston, Jamaica, March 16th, 1794.

Sir,

I AM sorry to inform you of my being here. I saild from Cape François the 3d 'nst. and fell in with the *Hound* sloop of war a few Leagues from the Cape who took out all my Cash and ordred me for the mole. from there sent here after taken out 3 of my people and sent a Prize master with 4 hands with me and I ariv'd here the 11th. what they will do with me I no not. my Papers are all very clear and plain. I am in hopes I shall not be libeld. if I am I must proceede [for] home as passanger as she will not be try'd till August] next. allmost all the Amaricans in port are [used the] same way and Captains going home without their Vess[els] leveing them here to take their fate as they turn us out when libel'd as for the Amaricans in general we can find very few friends here with our money and that they have taken from us and what to do we no not. I shall write again soon by Capt. Barker who goes Passanger to Newyork. so I remain your most humble Servant

SAM'L LAWTON

Plese to inform my family we are all well that is on bord mate my son Boy and Bennet on board the rest on board man of war.

S. L.

They have got from the Brig on your account 3944 Dollers Cash which is all yours.

[Endorsed,] Honor'd by Capt. Carver.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Kingston, Jamaica, March the 22th, 1794.

Sir,

I IMBRACE one more oppertunity as I have wrote you several letters before of my being here and sent by the sloop of war Capt. Serrage wating to se what they mean to do with me as I am in ballast I am in hopes they will not libel me. I shall no in a few days the determination of the Judge. if libel'd I mean to wate for the arivel of the Packet from England as she is expected in a few days. if not cleard then I mean to leve my Vessel on them and take out a Protest and proceede home the first oppertunity as there seems to be neither Law nor Justice here and they have got all my Cash from me therefore it is impossible to find friends here. there is now in port forty od sail here and the chief of them libel'd and their tryals wont come on this four months. by that time their Vessels will not be fit to proceede home. as for further perticulers I refer you to Capt. Bowler and Capt. Barker who has left there Vessels behind. I remain your humble Servant

Sam'l Lawton

All well on board. I have wrote you three letters sence I arived here.

S. L.

[Endorsed,] honor'd by Capt. Bowler.

Capture of Martinique[1]

[March–April, 1794.]

Landing was attempted in vain at Case navire and [*torn*] Case pilote. The troops and their boats repulsed by the Batteries on the shore were obliged to draw off and land lower down at the bottom.

The Enemy proceeding without opposition into the Country took the best ground, and established without difficulty their line round the forts. The investment was made the 11th of February. the next day the 12th [*blank*] bombarded and [*assaulted*] by land and sea was obliged to surrender after a vigorous resistance and having lost 38 men by the explosion of the powder magazine which took fire from one of the enemys bombs.

The 13 and 14 the Bomb Ketches and Battering Challops pointed all their fire upon the town and fort and continued it all the night.

Their intrigues were at this moment in the greatest activity. Cowardice and treason combined to accelerate the progress of the Enemy. On the 15 Élie and Pierre Milet came to assasinate the General. they were arrested confined and judged.

The 18th the Post Surirey was delivered to the English Bellegard and Pelauque had the address to render serviceable to their designs the committee of public safety and the municipality in concert with them without the knowledge of the General who could not be a dupe to the military movement to cover their perfidy. Under the specious pretence of going to attack the enemy in their Lines the Post was abandoned only 50 men being left to guard it. The rest marched forward by one rout while the Enemy seeing such fine play came on by another. [*Torn.*] Discretion all the stores have been confiscated even those belonging to Citizens

[1] A fragment giving an account of the capture by the British, March 20, 1794, of Fort Royal on the island of Martinique. Fort Royal was situated on the south side of the island, near the Pointe des Negres and on the Cul de Sac Royal. Case Pilote and Case des Navires lay to the west of the town, but Port or Post Surirey is not mentioned on a French map of the island of 1764.

which have been embarked. The Vessels and Cargoes of americans have shared the same fate they have been ignominiously imprisoned and treated in a manner the most cruel. about 3 or 400 Patriots the Municipality some members of the assembly and the Committee of public safety have been embarked. A conduct which inspires horror and displays the cruelty of the English is the barbarous manner with which they treat the sick and wounded french and americans who were in the Hospital. They turned them out doors and left them in the middle of the street during the whole night and all the next day without care or succour to make room for the sick and wounded english who were immediately carried to this Hospital.

The English on being established at port Surirey before they opened trenches which took place on the 22d of February, summoned General Rochambeau to surrender.

The Generals Grey and Jervis wishing to prevent the effusion of Blood, they declared their having under their command a Body of choice Troops of 15 thousand men independent of reinforcements they yet expected, resistance would be vain. Without hope of being succoured from France, without engineers, or men for the Artillery without troops to oppose to such an effective force as were about to attack him, his constancy and courage and that of his troops, which consisted (for the guard of two forts and the t[*torn*] men troops of the Line 30 Cannoneers 150 [*torn*] armed [*torn*] Laconic It is no time to ask counsel when we ought to fight. from that time the Town and Fort of Martinico was constantly exposed to an almost incessant fire of Cannon and Bombs. Finally the 7th of March the different Batteries of Mortars and Cannon pointed at Fort Constitution unmasked their fire it began at sunrise and never ceased to be warm and well served. Our Cannoneers always sustained it well and those of our Bastions above all the two in front of the attack, which were the best served and answered their fire with much life. The 12th of March to a new summons from the English Generals, Rochambeau made answer that resigned to the last events of War he and his Garrison were

determined to defend themselves in a manner to deserve the thanks of France and the esteem of the Enemy. The redout was pierced like a Sieve the inner wall absolutely leveled and all the works destroyed the Forts were hardly in a better state, there no longer remained a single building. Fort Convention above all had suffered much almost all the Batteries were dismounted and the Carriages broken. The explosion of four or five powder magazines which had taken fire at different [ti]mes in the two forts had killed and wounded for us many men. We availed ourselves of the armistice which was prolonged until the evening to repair our works and reestablish our Batteries. The fire then commenced with the same warmth from both sides. The Enemy had seventeen Batteries mounted with 87 pieces of Cannon which [*torn*] and battered us on [*torn*]. perhaps from 3 to 400.

The 20th of March the Town and Fort Republic were taken, a Deputation of the Constituted Authorities and Citizens of the Town was sent to the General to oblige him to capitulate. The demand was accepted, and Commissioners named on both parts met at the habitation of Dillon designated by General Rochambeau as the place of conference. They lasted two days and the Capitulation was signed by the respective Generals the 23d of March.

Your friend etc.

J. L. M. P.

P. S. I learn this instant that General Rochambeau does not go directly to France, reasons of a public nature cause him to go to the United States there to wait the orders of the Executive Council of the French Republic who a[re] informed [of] the place of his destination; this information is positive.

Samuel Lawton to Christopher Champlin

Kingston, Jamaica, April 1st, 1794.

Sir,

I have to inform you once more of my being here yet and not libeld. the Packet not being ariv'd is the means of our

detention. I shall apply to morrow for my Papers and Cash they have plunderd me of which is now in the hands of James Kingston the Agent. we are here in a most shocking situation with out mony and of cours with out friends and of cours without advise what to do for the best. they have opend the ports of this Island for all kind of Amarican produce of provisions and lumber for six months and all produce of this Island free as in British ships and the ports not shut again under six mont[h's] notice. I have wrote you by so many Vessels before I have but little to write but remain Yours

SAM'L LAWTON

all well on board.

[Endorsed,] favor'd by Capt. Merihew.

ROBERT NORTHAM TO CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Baltimore, August 3, 1794.

Sir,

I ARIVED hear yesterday in the afternoon had 9 day to the Capes and nothing meterel hapned on the Passage, the winds southerly most part of the passage. 4 days after I sail'd I spoke a 40 gun Ship. I judged her to be English and the day following a Schooner from Carrolina with 14 Guns show'd English Cullers. the 9 day came in the Capes took Pilot. when I arived hear I apply'd to Mr. Sears but he is not able to tell what sucses he may meet with in the Sale till she is advertiz'd for Sale but by the next poste I am in hopes to give you a more particular account. freights are lo at present and flour very high but on the fall from 48s to 50s Currency and other provisions in proportion. small Vessels from 50 to 70 tons commands a good price but large ones is not so much wanted as I have not been able to lern the particulars owing to my being hear so short a time and you will pleas to except this and excuse your Most obeadient and Humble

ROBERT NORTHAM

Pleas to let the family know that I and all on board is in perfect helth.

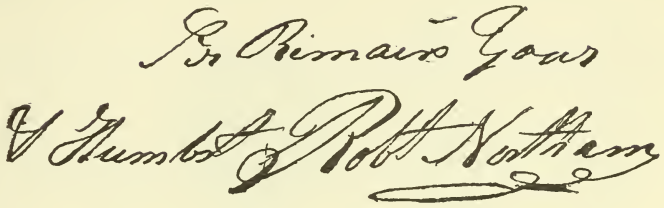
Robert Northam to Christopher Champlin

Baltimore, August the 10, 1794.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform you that we have remained here so long without one applycation not one person has offered to purchace and but that one that I mentioned in my last has ever offered to freight and he has never made a second applycation. at this time buisness is very dul and a great number of Shiping hear for freight charter or sail of different sizes but none of them is taken up except for Europe and a lo freight is given there from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ of a dollar to Spain and Portugal. I wish I could write more to your satisfaction but I think it my duty to inform you of the situation that we are now in as near as I possibly can and if no offer is made soon, Mr. Sears proposes to get a freight if possible as laying hear idle would soon comsume all the freight that a Vessel of this size woul[d] make. you was much decieved by the information that you had, and you are not the only one that was missinformed by Mr. Easterbrooks. Capt. Childes in a brig from Warren came hear with the same view that we did mearly from the information that he had from the same man but hartyly repents his comeing as he is much disapointed. indeed there is vessels from all quarters flocking in, but it is expected that in the cours of a few days that buisness will be more brisk as flour is falling and in consequence of that people will be incouraged to ship it off. there does not appear to be any established price for freights to the West Indies at present. for the last week not one vessel has been taken up for that Voyage but it is expected from the number of vessels hear that freights will be very lo. I have done nothing as yet with the Goods I brought out but engaged part of the wood at $3\frac{1}{2}$ dollars a cord. he is to take it the begining of the week. Mr. Sears will write you by this post and may give perhaps more intillegence what you may expect as he being better acquainted with the Buisness of the place than I am. if any thing further should present I shall write you which I am

dayly in hopes of. Untill then you will please to accept this from



N. B. it has been very sickly hear for some time past more or less dieing every day with the same feavour that raged in Philadelphia the last season but a northerly wind has prevail'd for 2 or 3 days past, which has in some measure cooled the Aure and made great alteration in the climate as it has been excesive warm hear but we are all well on board but anxious to be in some buisness that might turn to your advantage. Yours,

R. N.

Charter Party

Articles of agreement enter'd in to this Second day of Feb'y 1795, between Chris : Champlin and Geo : Champlin, Merchants on the one part and Thomas Dennis, Marriner, on the other part, witnesseth — that it is agreed by and between the said partis that said Chris : and Geo : Champlin hire or charter of the said Thos. Dennis the half part of a Certain Sloop called the *good Intent*, to be employed on a Voyage to the West Indias, said Dennis is to properly equip said Sloop for the Voyage fit for the Seas, at his expence, said Chris : and Geo : Champlin are to bear their propotion of maning and victualing said Sloop during her voyage, and allso to pay said Dennis at the rate of Seven Shillings and Sixpence a Ton a Month for the hire of the half of the said Sloop, and it is agreed by the parties that the hire or charter shall commence Nine days before the sailing of said Sloop from Newport and it is allso agreed that if the Sloop shou'd be lost on the Voyage, that in that case Chris : and Geo : Champlin is to pay unto the said Thomas Dennis One thou-

N. de Recette. N°. 1632

DIRECTION de Bordeaux

BUREAU de Bordeaux

Il est dû par Le Sr. Robert Robertson Capitaine du Navire « L'Elizabeth » de Newport jaugeant 132 Tonx. 65/95 venant de Philadelphie entré en ce Port, le 6 du Therm. an 2e pour les droits ci-après détaillés, conformément à la Loi du 27 Vendémiaire, an 2e chargé avec 12 hommes

SAVOIR :	MONTANT DES DROITS.
Droit de tonnage, à raison de 3 f. par au suivant l'art. 33	332. 10
Frais d'expédition d'entrée et de sortie, art. ..	18 —
Permis de débarquer, art. 37	1 —
Expédition du présent acquit, même article	4 10
Remboursement du prix du Timbre	
TOTAL	355 10

Je soussigné, Receveur de ladite Douane, reconnais avoir reçu la somme de trois Cent Cinquante cinq f. pour les droits ci-dessus détaillés; dont quittance. A Bordeaux le 21 fructidor 2e année républicaine.

Bellot

sand dollars in full compensation for the one half of the said Sloop and the hire of her, and furthermore it is agreed between the parties that if the Sloop shou'd be more than four months in performing the voyage, then in that case said Chris : and Geo : Champlin shall have it in their option, to become Owners of the half part of said Sloop and her appurtenences from the time of her sailing from Newport, they paying said Dennis One thousand dollars, for the half of said Sloop, or other way continue the Charter as above stipulated. In witness of the above agreement we have each of us set our hands the day and date above.

THOMAS DENNIS
GEO : CHAMPLIN
CHRIS : CHAMPLIN

Newport, Feby 2, 1795.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN TO ROBERT ROBINSON

Newport, January 16, 1798.

Cap. Robinson,

SHOU'D the amount contained in the above memo. not be sufficient to pay your Port Charges at Charleston you can make use of the nett proceeds of Mr. Lyons Plank give him an order on me at 30 Days for the amount.

If from any unforseen delay more money should be required, you must draw on me at 30 Days in favour of Roger Barker and Lord or any one who may want a draft.

The hour you have agreed for your Freight —

Write me by Post and different conveyances, informing me the Terms of Freight, by almeans to what port the Freight must be delivered,

That I may kno' in what manner to make Insurance.

Also, write me, the Day of the Month hour and minute you last git under weigh to go over the bar. Send it to Barker and Lord to forward it.

I hope your Freighters will permit you to go Northabout. if so mention it in your letters from Charleston.

If you proceed to Europe a Mediterranean Pass must be procured from the Custom House without fail.

Also, procure the Presidents Sea letter or General Pass which gives a General Description of the Cargo.

The Shippers no doubt will obtain Certificates from the different Consuls to prove the Cargo to be American Property.

Let Copies of your bills of Loading be annexed to your Certificates to prove the property, sign them and allways keep one, to secure your Freight.

Shoud our Commissioners be dismissed by the French Government and in consequence a War between France and the U. States appears unavoidable, I think it adviseable to return to Newport, unless a Freight can be obtained to New York worth accepting then take that rout home.

If you shoud meet an offer to sell half, two thirds or even all the ship do it, if the pay is good, and undoubted security can be given for the money not paid.

She cost me, put to Sea 15 : thousand Dollars. I woud take 14 thousand Dollars, — great has been the expence of equipments.

In all cases consult Mr. N. Russell. Perhaps a great prospect may appear to some money'd men to load with Tobacco and Rice, and proceed finally up the baltic and return to Charleston in which case they may buy the Ship, or freight her out and home.

Circumstances must direct.

CHRIS CHAMPLIN

SAILING ORDERS

Newport, Rhode Island, January 17th, 1798.

YOU being Master of my Ship *Hope* are to observe the following Instructions, viz.

With the first favourable wind proceed to Charleston, South Carolina. upon your arrival advertise for Freight, to Hambourg, Amsterdam or Rotterdam, and consult with the Gentlemen to whom I have wrote, upon the best method of obtaining one, to Hamburg I shou'd wish it. a mixed Freight is most profitable.

Remember the Charter party, in which the Condition of Freight is stipulated, to have a clause inserted permitting you to detain the Goods, untill the Freight is secured, this provided any doubts arrise respecting the punctual payment of it. upon this head consult Mr. N. Russell.

When you have discharged your outward Freight, use every endeavour to procure a return'd Freight to this Country, to N York or Philadelphia I shou'd wish it. to whatever port you take it for, advise me by two or more Conveyances that I may in time meet you with Instructions how to dispose of Ship and Freight. If your return'd Freight shou'd be for New York, invest my outward Freight in Russian Goods — say Hemp, Iron and duck agreeable to a memorandum given you. If no return'd Freight can be obtained worth accepting, then remit in bills my outward Freight to Messrs. Thomas Dickason and Co. of London. the validity of the Drawer and Indorser of the bills must be strictly attended to, and the remittance must be through a Channel where the exchange is in my Favour. out of which Freight reserve as much money, invested in proper goods, as may load the Ship with Salt, at the Isle of May, to which place proceed, and take in as much as the Ship can bring without being deep, and from thence return to New York, or Newport as the Season of the year will permit.

As my object in the Voyage is profitable Freights, shou'd a General Peace take place at or before your Arrival in Europe and nothing turn up hostile to our Commerce, you may obtain a Freight from the port your deliver your outward Freight at, to some other part of Europe, and from thence, return home with Freight or Salt, as Circumstances may turn up. Make regular Protests in all Cases where required. Sign three or 4 bills of loading for all Merchandize taken on board the Ship on my account, keep one and remit me two by different conveyances. keep me constantly advised of all your proceedings. furnish me from Charleston a Copy of your Charter Contract for Freight and close your account of Port Charges, Freight, Passage Money, Wood, etc. etc. and inclose them to me per different conveyances.

In Hamburg, Casper Voght; London, Thomas Dickason and Co.; in Copenhagen, Ryberg and Co.; in St. Petersburg, Edward James Smith and Co. — are safe Houses in whom you may confide. In Bourdeaux you are acquainted with one or two Houses; and I believe one in Havre. at Lisbon, Bulkley and Co. is a respectable House, who has done business for me. For your Government I shall furnish you in a Memo. the price of particular merchandize which may answer to bring to this Country.

Such is the deranged situation of Commerce in Europe no Calculation can be made, your judgement and prudence must direct. in all cases keep in view my Interest; the great expense attending the equipment of the ship requires frugality in all your movements. undertake nothing which may hazard my Property, keep me advised by every conveyance. wishing you a prosperous voyage, and safe return, I am Your Friend and Owner,

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

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